AUSTRALIAN OATS FOR HORSES.

AUSTRALIAN OATS..... Rs. 3-0-0 per Bag of 120 lbs.
AUSTRALIAN OATS..... Rs. 5-0-0 per cwt.
CRUSHED FOOD..... " 4-12-0
Also GRAM, BARLEY, COUNTRY OATS, BRAN, &c.
Supplied Very Cheap,

THE ROYAL FORAGE STORES,
2, ARGYLE ROAD, CARNAC BRIDGE, BOMBAY.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 52,507—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY :—THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1902. PRICE 4 ANNAS.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.—PRICE 8 ANNAS.
THE INDIAN RAILWAY TRAVELLERS' GUIDE.
THE LATEST AND MOST COMPLETE GUIDE IN INDIA.
Time and Fare Tables of all Indian Railways, Steam Boats and Daks. Places of interest Inland and along the Coast, Postal and Telegraphic information, &c., &c.
COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
"Bombay Gazette" Press, Fort, Bombay.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE
WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.
SATURDAY 2 P.M.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	1902.
" EGYPT	7912	G. L. Langbourne.	15th March
M. L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	22nd "
VICTORIA	6227	E. Crewe	29th "
M.L. EGYPT	7913	G. L. Lanchorne.	5th April,
" ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	12th "
M.L. VICTORIA	6227	E. Crewe	19th "
" PENINSULAR	5287	T. Leigh	26th "
M.L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	3rd May,
PERSIA	7951	W. A. Wheler	10th "
M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	T. Leigh	17th "
" CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	24th "
M.L. PERSIA	7951	W. A. Wheler	31st "

The steamers marked M. L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London, passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.
The steamers marked * proceed to Aden only, and Passengers tranship there for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON the day previous to sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage Labelled with Port of Destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 11 A.M., and 12-30 P.M., for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attention is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on WEDNESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA and JAPAN, and return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.
Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals calling at Ports en route.

F. RITCHIE,
Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 3rd January, 1902.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ AND PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on
IMPERATOR	C. Androvich	4,139	1st April 1902
IMPERATRIX	V. Gutman	4,212	1st May 1902.

PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 660.	Rs. 397-8.	Rs. 165.

BOMBAY TO TRIESTE VIA ADEN, SUEZ AND PORT SAID.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about.
S. S. TIROL	.....	2,771	15th March.
*S. S. POSEIDON	.....	3,878	8th April.
S. S. F. FRANZ FERDINAND		6,943	16th April

* Will call at Karachi.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 413-8	Rs. 165.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE AVAILABLE FOR ANY PERIOD WITHIN A YEAR.
1st Class Rs. 990. 2nd Class Rs. 536-4. Saloon Rs. 618-12.

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.
1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.
The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co., at reduced fares.
This arrangement will prove of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.
Passengers to VENICE tranship at TRIESTE to another steamer of the Company, which takes about 5 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO SHANGHAI, VIA SINGAPORE, AND HONGKONG.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
INDIA	E. Klun	2,650	23rd April, 1902.

For further particulars, regarding Passages apply to
E. SCARPA, Agent.
Sassoon House, 52, Church Gate Street.
Bombay, 7th March, 1902.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on THURSDAY,
SALAZIE	4,255	Aubert	13th Mar. 1902.
OCEANIEN	4,259	Schmitz	10th April 1902.
YARRA	4,255	Negre	8th May, 1902

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.
The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.
S. S. "TONKIN," 6,363 tons, Captain Durrande, to sail on or about 2nd April, 1902.
For further particulars apply to
C. RUINAT, Agent.
New Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay

THOS. COOK AND SON,
BANKERS, PASSENGER AND FORWARDING AGENTS.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES
AT
REDUCED RATES,

FOR long PERIOD RETURN TICKETS by P. and O. and other Lines.

PASSAGES engaged by all Liners and Non-Liners FREE OF CHARGE FOR COMMISSION. Special attention to the selection of berths and grouping of passengers.
SPECIAL REDUCTIONS to Families, Missionaries and Railway Officials to London; also to Government Officials via China and America to Europe.
THROUGH TICKETS issued from any Railway station in India to all parts of the World.
COOK'S INTERPRETERS meet and assist passengers at London, Marseilles, Genoa, and all Chief Towns of the world.
OUTWARD PASSAGES engaged and tickets supplied from any part of the World to India.
PASSENGERS' BAGGAGE received, forwarded or insured against theft and all risks.
PACKAGES of every description stored, and shipped as cargo to all parts of the world at lowest rates; ESTIMATES on application.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and amounts placed on DEPOSIT for FIXED PERIODS.
STOCKS and SHARES bought and sold.
DRAFTS, CIRCULAR NOTES, & LETTERS OF CREDIT issued and REMITTANCES made.

BOMBAY; CALCUTTA, RANGOON, COLOMBO,

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED,
Intend to despatch Steamers as follows :—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.
S. S. "KOLA," 1,192 tons, on FRIDAY, the 14th March, at 2 p.m., or later, on arrival of the English Mail

FOR KATHIAWAR COAST PORTS AND KURRACHEE.
S. S. "DWARKA," 1,695 tons, on TUESDAY, the 18th March, at 10 a.m., calling at Veraval, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie (weather permitting).

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.
S. S. "JAVA," 1,477 tons, on THURSDAY, the 13th March, at 10 a.m., calling at Kurrachee, Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah, and Busreh, in the foregoing or any order (weather permitting).

FOR ADEN, ZANZIBAR, MOMBASA, IBO, MOZAMBIQUE, BEIRA AND DELAGOA BAY.
S. S. "NEVASA," 2,998 tons, on or about MONDAY, the 17th March.

FOR COAST PORTS AND CALCUTTA.
S. S. "KERBELA," 1,961 tons, on or about 16th March,

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents.
Bombay, 12th March, 1902.

KING, KING & CO.,
BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY,

PASSAGES engaged, and best available Berths secured, at Lowest Rates obtainable by P. & O., and all other Steamers, FREE OF CHARGE for COMMISSION.
LATEST LIST of SAILINGS, Fares, and full information furnished by return of post, on application.
Special attention paid to the grouping of Passengers travelling 2nd Class by P. & O.
EVERY ASSISTANCE rendered to Passengers on arrival in Bombay. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and Shipped.
SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.
PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. King, King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,
CALCUTTA.
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

BANKS.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £3,75,000

HEAD OFFICE :
37 THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E. C.

BRANCHES :

Calcutta,	Delhi,	Cawnpore,	Kandy.
Lahore,	Bombay,	Colombo,	Tuticorin.
Amritsar,	Madras,	Mandalay,	Zanzibar.
Kurrachee,	Rangoon,	Newera Elya,	Mombassa.
Steamer Point,	Aden.		

FIXED DEPOSITS.
The Bank receives DEPOSITS FIXED for one year and shorter periods, at Rates of Interest to be ascertained on application.
CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 100,000, but no Interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.
BILLS OF EXCHANGE payable in the principal Cities of Europe, India, China, and Australia purchased or collected.
DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.
The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.
LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities.

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.
INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

CAPITAL £800,000
RESERVE FUND..... £575,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000

HEAD OFFICE.
HATON COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES :

Bombay.	Singapore.	Manila
Calcutta.	Bangkok.	Cebu Philippines
Madras	Kwala Lumpor.	Shanghai.
Rangoon.	Batavia.	Tientsin.
Colombo.	Sourabaya.	Hankow.
Penang.	Hongkong.	Yokohama.
Deli (Sumatra).	Foochow	Kobe.
Taaiping.		

The Corporation GRANT DRAFTS on the above Agencies and Branches; buy and receive for collection Bills of Exchange; issue Letters of Credits; and undertake general Banking business.

FIXED DEPOSITS
are received for TWELVE MONTHS at FOUR PER CENT per Annum. Rate for shorter periods may be ascertained on application.

JOHN STIVEN,
Agent.
Bombay, Agency, Elphinstone Circle.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—CALCUTTA.
BRANCHES :
Bombay, Karachi, Lahore, London, Madras, Rangoon and Rawal Pindi.
Sub-Branches :—Murree—(April to October) and Amritsar.
CAPITAL PAID-UP, Rs. 43,90,800.
RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ARE AS UNDER:
STERLING DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS for home remittances 4 per cent. per annum.
FIXED DEPOSITS—
9 to 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.
2 years at 5½ " "
Special rates are given for SHORT PERIOD DEPOSITS, which can be learnt on application.
Sums as small as Rs. 10 are received into the Bank's PRUDENTIAL FUND, bearing half-yearly compound interest at 5 per cent. per annum.
Cheques, Bills, Hoondees on Stations where the Bank has Branches and Currency Notes of any circle are collected and credited free of charge in the above interest Deposit Accounts
CURRENT ACCOUNTS are opened with sums of Rs. 50, and upwards and receive 2 PER CENT. per annum upon the daily balances.
Apply for Rules to Head Office or Branches,

W. MOIR,
Manager.
Bombay, 1st February, 1902.

TO STAMP COLLECTORS.—OLD ENGLISH STAMPS of various kinds, either in lot or separately. Fivepenny, Sixpenny, Eightpenny, Ninepenny, One shilling. What offers? Apply "STAMPS," care of this paper.

TREACHER & CO., LD.,
Have a Complete Stock of all
REQUISITES FOR TRAVELLERS.
TRUNKS, BAGS, DRESSING BAGS, HOSIERY,
DECK SHOES, DECK CHAIRS, RUGS, MAUDS.
MEDICINES, GROCERIES, WINES,
TOILET REQUISITES, PERFUMES, ETC.
Complete Illustrated Catalogues on Application.
BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

JOHN ROBERTS & Co., LTD.,
BOMBAY.
Beg to announce that owing to THE INRCEASING DEMAND for their well-known
ARTISTIC FURNITURE
they have added a
NEW SHOW ROOM
to their already extensive premises where a display of the most
UP-TO-DATE
designs and patterns may now be seen.
A VISIT OF INSPECTION
is respectfully invited.

LECHARD FILS BORDEAUX
SAINT-JULIEN.
THIS WINE is produced solely from grapes grown in the district of Saint-Julien in a vineyard the property of Messrs. LECHARD FILS. This is a guarantee in itself of its parity, and permits the growers to recommend it as a thoroughly SOUND and GENUINE LIGHT WINE.
SOLD BY ALL WINE MERCHANTS.

WM. HUTCHINSON & Co.,
BANKERS, MERCHANTS, AND EAST INDIA AGENTS,
TRAFALGAR BUILDINGS,
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE,
CHARING CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "PULLICATE, LONDON."
A. B. C. CODE USED.
CONSIGNMENTS of PRODUCE received and disposed.
INDENTS executed with care and promptitude.
PASSAGES booked by a Line of Steamers.
ALL AGENCY BUSINESS undertaken.
The representatives of Wm. HUTCHINSON and Co., on RECEIPT of INTIMATION, Board Steamers from the East on their arrival at Plymouth, Gravesend, or at the Docks, to take instructions of Clearing and Forwarding Baggage, &c.

THE INDIAN FIBRE COMPANY, LD.
CAPITAL Rs. 4,00,000,
In 4,000 Shares of Rs. 100 each.
THE SHARE LIST IS NOW OPEN.
AND WILL CLOSE ON THE 30TH APRIL, 1902.
Prospectus and Forms of application may be obtained from
MESSRS. RONALDSON & RONALDSON
9 & 10 Second Line Beach, MADRAS.

SMOKE LIVIERATO & CO.'S
HIGH CLASS EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES.
THEY ARE THE CHEAPEST AND THE BEST.
FEW HINTS TO SMOKERS.
FOR the information of the Public, who are misled by blustering advertisements and induced to believe that the CIGARETTES made in Egypt are *THE ONLY GENUINE*, we beg to draw their attention to the following :—Egypt does not produce any Tobacco at all, and the Cigarettes manufactured there are of Turkish Tobacco, the same as our own Cigarettes. There is no difference, therefore, between the Cigarettes made in Egypt and those made in Aden, as both of them are made of the same Turkish Tobacco and by the same Cigarette Makers, with the only difference that purchasers of Cigarettes made in Egypt have to pay nearly double the prices of those made in Aden.
We, therefore, request all Cigarette Smokers to try a box of the Cigarettes made in Aden, and convince themselves of the above facts.
GENERAL AGENTS :
V. FUCILE & CO.,
BELOW BOMBAY CLUB, BOMBAY.

THE ITALIAN STORES.
C. COLONNELLO, SON & CO.,
105, MEDOW STREET, FORT, BOMBAY.
GORGONZOLA, PARMESAM AND GRUYERE CHEESE.
German Sausages assorted in Tins. Sourcroute in Glass Jars and Tins.
Milan Sausages in skin and Mortadella.
Cepes S. Anne French real. Asparagus, Celery, Truffles, Mushrooms dry and in Vinegar.
PATE DE FOI GRAS. Petits Pois Ex-Fin.
Fresh Anchovies salted loose, and in bottles in Oil, Tonno Fish, Ventresca, Royans a la Bordalaise.
Italian and German mixed Pickles, French and Italian Olives, Olive Farcies, Black Olives loose in Oil.
SALAD OIL Finest Lucca. Pure Italian Wine Vinegar.
Liqueurs, Cremes and Italian Wines assorted.
Macaroni assorted, Vermicelli, Italian Paste assorted, Dry Peas, Milanese Gram, Carolina Rice, White Beans, large and small.
Fresh Walnuts, Hazelnuts and Almonds, Goa Mango preserved, and best Syrup in bottles assorted.
Messrs. KERSHAW & Co's best CEYLON TEA.
Attention is drawn to our celebrated GRIGNOLINO CLARET, a thoroughly Genuine article. Only Rs. 10 per doz. qts.

ENAMELLED CHATELAINE WATCHES.
FOR LADIES.
WE are in receipt of a very fine collection of these Watches, most exquisitely enamelled in colours. As they are all more or less completely covered with enamels in different colours, little or no metal is visible. The use of gold, therefore, would have been an unnecessary extravagance.

		Rs.			Rs.
701	Plain Enamelled Transparent	28	781	Painting a la Watteau...	75
713	Gilt Decorated Enamel	30	712	Pearl Border and Pearl Centre	56
724	Pearl Centre Back ...	35	501	Transparent Enamel ...	55
732	Pearl Border, painted Angel...	55	527	Pearl Border Transparent	55
782	Pearls all over Back...	65	581	Pearl Border, and Cloisone centre ...	60

Shamrock on light Enamel... ... ... Rs. 60
Silver Gilt Enamelled Brooches to match ... ,, 6
Handsome Velvet or Leather Cases supplied with each Watch
The Watches can be had in Red, Sky Blue and Green.

MARCKS & Co., LTD.,
WATCH MAKERS & JEWELLERS.
BOMBAY AND POONA.

BECHSTEIN PIANOS.
THE ROYAL WARRANT OF APPOINTMENT AS PIANOFORTE MANUFACTURER TO
HIS MAJESTY THE KING
HAS BEEN CONFERRED ON
C. BECHSTEIN.
BERLIN AND LONDON.
The World's Greatest Pianists prefer the **BECHSTEIN** Piano to any other.
LISZT *writes*....." For twenty-eight years I have now used your Pianos, and they have maintained their superiority. YOUR INSTRUMENTS ARE PERFECT."
SOUNDY & CO., LD.,
SOLE APPOINTED AGENTS, BOMBAY.

THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE "BAHADUR"
CATALOGUE.
"BAHADUR QUEEN-EMPRESS"
BRAND.
THE "BAHADUR QUEEN-EMPRESS"
Brand is the latest addition to our List. They are packed in
Boxes of 100, each Cigar being Ringed with a "BAHADUR QUEEN-EMPRESS." Ring.
"BAHADUR QUEEN-EMPRESS," Extra large, 5 inches, Rs. 37-8.

"BAHADUR QUEEN-EMPRESS," No. 1, 4½ in., Rs. 31-6.	"BAHADUR QUEEN-EMPRESS," No. 3, 3¾ in., Rs. 27-8.
"BAHADUR QUEEN-EMPRESS," No. 2, 4 in., Rs. 29-0.	"BAHADUR QUEEN-EMPRESS," No. 4, 3 in., Rs. 24-0.

PACKED in BOXES of 50, at an extra charge of Re. 1 per 1,000.
PACKED in BOXES of 25, at an extra charge of Rs. 2 per 1,000.
ILLUSTRATED LEAFLET FREE ON APPLICATION.
McDOWELL & CO., LD.,
MADRAS AND LONDON.

BOMBAY GAZETTE BI-WEEKLY edition.—Issued on Wednesday and Saturday, giving all the News and Telegrams up to date. Subscription per Annum, Rs. 12; Half-yearly Rs. 6; Quarterly Rs. 3-8. Subscribers in Bombay, Rs. 15 to the Mofussil.

VISITING CARDS, DIES, CRESTS Monograms, &c., &c., in elegant style and at the shortest notice. Engraving, Copper-plate Printing and Lithographing orders. For rates apply to SUPERINTENDENT, "Bombay Gazette" Steam Press.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOVELTY THEATRE.

OWING TO THE ENORMOUS SUCCESS OF

Mr. JOHN GUNN'S

LONDON GAIETY COMPANY,

He has decided to extend his Season, and will

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH

Mr. GEORGE EDWARDS

PRODUCE THE FOLLOWING MUSICAL COMEDIES :—

TO-NIGHT,

THURSDAY, 13TH MARCH,

Under the Patronage and in the presence of

H. E. LORD AND LADY NORTHCOTE,

And the Members of Committee of the Dufferin Fund Fancy Fete, when will be produced, by desire,

"SAN TOY"

FRIDAY, 14TH MARCH,

"TOREADOR."

SATURDAY, 15TH MARCH,

"GAIETY GIRL"

TO COMMENCE EACH EVENING AT 9 O'CLOCK.

PRICES OF ADMISSION.—

Stalls Rs. 5 & 4 — Pit Chairs Rs. 2.
Dress Circle Rs. 4 & 3 — Gallery Re. 1.

PLAN & TICKETS AT SOUNDY & Co., Ld.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo arrived per S. S. "SALAZIE" from COLOMBO, THE STRAITS, CHINA AND JAPAN are hereby informed that she has landed her Cargo in the Stream.

All Claims for Damages, &c., must be sent in the Office within seven days after the discharge of Cargo, or before the goods are removed to the unclaimed warehouse from the landing shed, otherwise they will not be entertained. Goods on Survey will be attended to every morning.

C. RUINAT,
Agent.

Bombay, 12th March, 1902.

FANCY FETE.

AUCTION

ON THE OVAL.

MR. ARNOLD has kindly consented to hold an AUCTION of all GOODS that have not been DISPOSED of at the Bazaar Stalls of the FANCY FETE.

The Auction will be held at the DURBAR TENT on the Oval on THURSDAY, March, 13th, at 5 P. M.

ENTRANCE FREE.

ROYAL ALFRED SAILORS' HOME SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held in the LIBRARY of the Home, on WEDNESDAY, the 19th instant, at 5-30 P.M.

Subscribers and all interested in the welfare of Seamen and the Society are invited to attend,

F. E. HARDCASTLE,
Honorary Secretary.

NOTICE.

SEALED TENDERS will be received by the ENGINEER, Bombay Improvement Trust, up to 1 p.m., on 24th MARCH, 1902, for :—

(1) Supply of Stationery and Drawing Materials.
(2) Watering certain roads and footpaths.
(3) Supply of pairs of bullocks with driver and cart during 1902-3.

The necessary information as to conditions of Contract, &c, can be seen at the Engineer's Office during office hours on any working day.

ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LD.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company, Limited, will be held at the Offices of the Company, Oriental Buildings, on THURSDAY, the 27th day of March, 1902, at 2-30 P. M.

To receive the Consulting Actuary's Valuation Report on the Assets and Liabilities of the Company as at 31st December, 1901, and to decide as to the amount of profits which has been realized up to that date.

To decide as to the proportion of the said profits to be appropriated to the formation of a Reserve Fund.

To declare the proportion of Profits applicable for Dividend to Shareholders and a Bonus to Policyholders.

Generally to transact any other business arising out of or germane to the said Valuation by the Consulting Actuary, as may be brought before the Meeting by the Chairman.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

R. PATERSON BROWN,
Manager.

Bombay, 11th March, 1902.

ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LD.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Company, Limited, will be held at the Offices of the Company, Oriental Buildings, on THURSDAY, the 27th day of March, 1902, at 3 P.M.

To receive Directors' and Auditors' Report for the year ending 31st December, 1901.

To elect Directors and Auditors in room of those retiring by rotation, but who are eligible for re-election.

To declare a Dividend.

To transact any other business which may be brought before the Meeting by the Chairman.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

F. PATERSON BROWN,
Manager.

Bombay, 11th March, 1902.

SALES BY AUCTION.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & COMPANY, No. 4, FORBES & MEDOWS STREETS, FORT.

By order of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, Messrs MEHRJEE JOHNSTON & Co. will sell by Public Auction, at the Arthur Crawford Markets, on MONDAY, the 17th March, 1902, at 11 a.m., the right of collecting fair ground and fee-in-lieu fees from cattle dealers, butchers and all others at the Bombay Municipal Slaughter-houses, Bandora, for 12 months, from 1st April, 1902, to 31st March, 1903, and fees in the Fort Market, Arthur Crawford Beef Market, Arthur Crawford Fish and Mutton Markets, Erskine Road Fish Market, Foras Road Fish Market, Colaba Fish Market, Pedder Road Fish Market, Mazagon and Fergusson Road Fish Market, Parel, from fresh and salt fish-sellers, &c., who sit on the floor or other places not numbered, either in line of gutter, under the eaves of the markets and also collecting fees for weighing goods at the scales of the Arthur Crawford markets, for 12 months, from 1st April 1902, to 31st March 1903.

For particulars and conditions of these sales, respectively, apply at the Municipal Commissioner's Office, Fort, or at the office of the Superintendent of Markets, Arthur Crawford Markets, or to the Undersigned. The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the highest or any offer.

SALE of Office and Mill Furniture, Treasury Safes, Teak F. P. Partitions, Telephone Room, &c.

By order of N. C. Macleod Esquire, Official Liquidator appointed by the High Court of Bombay, Re the Jairam Mills Ltd., Messrs. MEHRJEE JOHNSTON and Co. will sell by Public Auction, on TUESDAY the 18th March 1902 at 2-30 p m at Nos 4-6 Esplanade Road, Fort, (first story), consisting of office and writing tables, large and small Treasury safes with stands, copying presses, writing materials, stationery case, benkwood and teakwood office and easy chairs, spring seated sofas and chairs, tete tete table, cabinet and corner stands with mirrors, teak F P partition, telephone room, hanging punkhas, clocks, teapoys, hat stand, double screen, cupboards, book cases, circular and set of teak tables, dumb waiter, utensils candle, sticks &c.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.

Bombay, 12th March, 1902.

A. READYMONEY & COMPANY
BANK STREET, FORT,

SALE OF VALUABLE NOVELS,

Messrs. A READYMONEY and Co. are instructed to sell by Public Auction on SATURDAY, the 15th instant, at 2 p.m., in their Rooms, in Green Street, Fort, by order of Mr. Hasumbhai Vishram, the following valuable and choice collection of books treating of historical subjects, ancient and modern, Geographical works by known authors, Religious and Political treatises, works of Fiction, &c, volumes, the British Essayists, histories of travels and expeditions, and other books on political, moral, social, scientific and economical subjects, &c.

Catalogues are ready and the books are on view.

A. READYMONEY & Co.

Bombay, 12th March, 1902.

FORMS OF POWER OF ATTORNEY, Neatly printed, Price 8 Annas, Can be had at the Bombay Gazette Office.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVTS.

(Only Advertisements for Clerks, Servants, &c., Houses to Let, and Goods for Sale or Wanted, are accepted in this column.)

RATES.—(Cash only.) Three lines, per insertion, One Rupee. Every additional line, Eight Annas. REPLIES will be sent "BEARING" unless amount to cover Postage is previously paid.

FACSIMILE CORONATION SPOON used at the anointing. In Hall-marked Sterling Silver gilt, Rs. 10 each. Orders are now being registered by MARCKS & Co., Ld., Bombay, where a Specimen Spoon can be seen.

VERMITE—The only Powder that actually kills and exterminates Insect Pests such as Blackbeiles Cockroaches, Crickets Bugs, Fleas, Moths, &c. In tins 4 As, 7 As, 12 As and Rs 2-8—Sold by THOMSON & TAYLOR, 35 Esplanade Road.

BOOK-KEEPING, Higher Accountancy and Commercial Subjects, by D. J. Tata, PRACTICAL ACCOUNTANT, FIRST CLASS HONOURS (London). Rs 4, care of The Bombay and Persia S. N. Co., Ld., near Currency Bank.

TILL SATURDAY NEXT.—Still further REDUCTION in Gent's BOOTS and SHOES till Saturday next, when SALE CLOSES. Gent's Oxford Shoes from Rs. 2-14. Boots from Rs. 3-4.—SUTOR & Co. (Retail Agents,) THE WESTERN INDIA ARMY BOOT, & EQUIPMENT FACTORY, Hornby Road, (Opposite John Roberts & Co.) Bombay.

GLORIA CYCLES.—Model Riche fitted with tall bearing free wheel and Bowden Triumph pattern brake, a perfect mount. The GLORIA, with latest improvements, price Rs 220 nett cash. Accessories included. Sole Agents, W. H. THORNS & Co., Tamarind Lane.

LOST at Fancy Fete on Monday, 10 Inst, a BROOCH, Five Blue Moonstones, set in Silver in one row with Brilliants round each stone. The finder will be well rewarded, if he or she returns it to Mr. F. H. De BRITO, High Court, Bombay.

REAL EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES, by DIMITRINO and Co, of Cairo, known for their exquisite flavour and fine aroma from Rs. 2-4 to 4-8 per 100. Fresh consignments by every alternate Mail Steamer D. MERWAN & Co., Cigar Merchants, 30, Medows Street, Bombay.

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WANTED AN ASSISTANT PRINTER.—The services of an experienced Assistant Printer are required for a local English daily paper. Only those who have acted in that capacity before on English Papers need apply. Applications with copies of testimonials to be addressed to "155 M," Advt. Dept., care of "Bombay Gazette."

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WE ARE SELLING LADIES' BOOTS and SHOES at still further reduced prices till Saturday next, when SALE CLOSES. A Special Line Ladies Tan Lace or Button Shoes reduced to 1 e. 3-8; Blacker Tan Lace Boots from Rs. 3-10.—SUTOR & Co., (Retail Agents), THE WESTERN INDIA ARMY BOOT & EQUIPMENT FACTORY, Hornby Road, (Opposite John Roberts & Co.) Bombay.

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CHILDREN'S BOOTS AND SHOES, at REDUCED RATES till Saturday next, when SALE CLOSES. Prices from Rs. 1-8. Inspection invited.—SUTOR & Co. (Retail Agents,) THE WESTERN INDIA ARMY BOOT & EQUIPMENT FACTORY, Hornby Road (Opposite John Roberts & Co.), Bombay.

GENUINE AMERICAN SNOW FLAKE OIL, 150° sold by STANDARD OIL Co., of New York, at their Godowns, at Mazagon, and by Messrs. Kemp and Co., Ld., Messrs. Phillips and Co., Ld., and Messrs. Cutrimbhai Hirji, at Rs. 5-3-2 per case, at Bombay; and by Mr. J. C. Bhut, at Rs. 5-7-2 per case, at Bandora.

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A GOOD PHOTOGRAPH is a Lasting Joy. An Indifferent Photograph for the sake of Cheapness is FALSE ECONOMY. For a Really GOOD LIKENESS go to RAJA DEEN DAYAL & SONS.

MANGALORE TILES of Morgan & Son Alvares & Co. and other Manufacturers. For rates, &c., Apply STEFFENAUER & Co., 5, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

SORRY no clearance sale to advertise, at the demand is so very great for our SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES, that in spite of our importation by thousands, we have often to telegraph to the Factory for supply.

OLIVER & CO., WATCHMAKERS and MUSICAL DEPOT, High Class Standard Watches in all sizes, for Ladies and Gentlemen. Received English Watches by J. W. BENSON, LONDON, in open faced Silver cases, Rs. 50 and Rs. 65, Celestinas, Phoenix, Intona, Aristona, and Hand Organs of every description Repaired and Tuned. Musical boxes of every description Thoroughly Overhauled, Repaired, Cleaned and Old Barrels and Old Combs renewed. Pianos, Orchestrean, Harmoniums put in Thorough repair and Overhauled by Experienced and Trained workmen. All Repairs are well and carefully examined before despatching. Repairs undertaken in all Branches A Trained Watchmaker has been specially engaged from P. Orr and Sons, Ld., Watchmakers, Madras. No. 4, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

TAMARIND COUGH BALSAM.—A safe, speedy and efficacious remedy for Cough, Colds, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, &c., &c. Re. 1 Per Bottle. Prepared only by THOMSON & TAYLOR, CHEMISTS,—35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

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WE will SEND STAMPED PICTURE-POST-CARDS to any one who sends us gratis old Postage Stamps of every value for a CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL. Our best thanks in addition. DOCTOR EMILIE Von MAYERSBACH, PRESIDENT, VOLOSCA, ISTRIA, AUSTRIA.

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RATES.—One Anna per line, Minimum charge Four Annas

ADVERTISER, a smart young man from Madras, speaking fluently EIGHT DIFFERENT VERNACULAR LANGUAGES, seeks ENGAGEMENT as a CLERK or a TRAVELLING COMPANION, or an Interpreter. Is also a good horseman and is willing to act in any capacity. Possesses good References and Testimonials. Apply for particulars to Box No. 7 F, Advt. Dept., "Bombay Gazette."

WANTED, by an experienced EUROPEAN LADY, SITUATION as Travelling Companion or to teach young Children in a Native Nobleman's family. Apply to "HONOUR" Box No. 141, Advt. Dept., "The Bombay Gazette."

NOTICES.

KING, KING & Co.,
BOMBAY.
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CALCUTTA.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened free of charge for Commission, and interest at 2 per cent. per annum credited on 30th June and 31st December, when the minimum balance does not fall below Rs. 500. Currency Notes of all Circles and Demand, Hundies payable in Bombay received without charge.

FIXED DEPOSITS received, subject to six and twelve months' notice of withdrawal at rates which can be ascertained on application.

REMITTANCES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, Demand and Telegraphic, made at the current rates of Exchange, and addresses in connection with the latter registered Free of Charge through Messrs. HENRY S. KING & CO., 65, Cornhill, London.

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WANTED FOR THE EAST INDIAN Railway Workshops at Jamalpur a European as Head Carpenter, must have knowledge of joinery and carpentry. Also a European with knowledge of painter's work as Head Painter.

Salaries according to qualifications up to Rs. 200.

Apply by letter only, giving full particulars of previous service, age, &c., to the Locomotive Superintendent, East Indian Railway, Jamalpur.

J. DOUGLAS,
Agent.

Calcutta, 4th March, 1902.

NOTICE is hereby given that ICHHABAI, widow of CHUNILAL MANORDAS and LALBHAI SAKARLAL the Executrix and Executor respectively of the last Will and Testament of the said Chunilal Manordas, have contracted to SELL the undermentioned property. All persons, therefore, claiming to have any right, title or interest therein by way of sale, mortgage lease, gift, inheritance or bequest or otherwise howsoever are required to make the same known to the Undersigned at their office at 29, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay, within 14 days from the date hereof otherwise at the expiration of the said period the sale will be completed and all such claims (if any) will be considered to have been waived.

PARTICULARS OF PROPERTY.

All those two pieces or parcels of Government Quit and Ground Rent land or ground now forming one piece of land containing by admeasurement 138 square yards or there, abouts and registered by the Collector of Land Revenue-Bombay, under Collector's Old Nos. 740 to 743, Collector's New Nos 7916 and 7919, Old Survey No. 1666, and New Survey No 945, together with the messuage, tenement or building standing thereon assessed by the Municipality of Bombay under Ward No. 6451, Street No 94, all which premises are situate at and on the South side of Nisampura Street, in the City and Registration Sub-district of Bombay, and are bounded on or towards the East by the house of Bomanji Maneckji Choksi, on or towards the West by the house of Dorabji Hormasji Golwala, on or towards the North by the Nizampura Street aforesaid, and on or towards the South by a sweeper's passage and were formerly in the occupation of the tenants of the said Chunilal Manordas and are now in those of his said Executrix and Executor.

—Dated the 6th day of March, 1902.

ARDESHIR HORMUSJI DINSHAW & Co.,
Purchaser's Attorneys.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.
SUIT No. 812 OF 1900.

BAI BAIAI, wife of SORABJI BEZONJI.....Plaintiff.
vs.
GANGABAI alias LUXMIBAI, Administratrix of the late HAWA DHANAJI PARKAR, deceased .....Defendant.

PURSUANT to the Decree Absolute made in the above Suit and bearing date the 19th day of August, 1901, the following immoveable property will be SOLD by PUBLIC AUCTION by the Commissioner of this Honourable Court at his Office in the Court House, on THURSDAY, the 13th day of March, 1902, at the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon.

PARTICULARS.

All the estate and interest of the abovenamed Plaintiff and the Defendent in all that piece or parcel of land of Fazendari ground together with the messuage, tenement, dwelling house and premises standing thereon, situate, lying and being without the Fort of Bombay, on the North side of Cavel Street, in the Oart called or known by the name of Kaltadevichiwady or Galwady, assessed by the Collector of Municipal Rates and Taxes under C Ward No. 3885, Street No. 202, containing by admeasurement 93 square yards, be the same, little more or less, and bounded as follows :—That is to say on or towards the East partly by the public passage of the said Oart and partly by the property belonging to Baboorao Camset Sonar, on or towards the West by the public passage of the said Oart, on or towards the North partly by the passage and partly by the well reserved for the public use of the inhabitants of the said Oart, on or towards the South by the public passage of the said Cavel Street formerly and now in the occupation of the tenants of the said defendant, in the Registration Sub-District of Bombay.

For further particulars and conditions of Sale, application should be made at the Office of the said Commissioner or at the Office of Messrs, Shamrao and Minocheher, Attorneys for the Plaintiff abovenamed at No. 21, Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay.—Dated this 6th day of February, 1902.

A. K. OLIVER,
Commissioner.

GLARE GLASSES.

WITH the disappearance of the Monsoons and the prospects in the future of Hot and Sunny Days, we beg to remind all, whose Eyes are affected by the glare of the sun, of the necessity of using SUN SPECTACLES. Our neutral tinted Glare stirrup-shaped Spectacle give the greatest comfort in use. They can be obtained in shades of light medium and dark. The lense are of the best make, absolutely free from air bubbles and water marks, so common in the cheap Spectacle.

Steel, Rs. 6. Nickel, Rs. 10.
Gold, Rs. 75.

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ONE ENGLISH-BUILT C. Under-Spring BAROUCHE, by Hooper & Co., of London.

New Rubber-tyred BICYCLE WHEELS, VICTORIA (English-built), SECOND-HAND LANDAUS, VICTORIAS and BROUGHAMS by well-known makers.

CARRIAGE REPAIRS of every description will be executed with prompt attention.

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A TANK-NIGRAH PILLS.—A successful remedy based on most advanced and modern researches in the Ayurved, or Native Medical Science, for nervous diseases and physical debility, premature exhaustion and loss to vital energy with other allied affections.

A Pamphlet, containing Testimonials from Europeans, will be sent free of charge on application.

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CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses selected for Local and Up-country Constituents. Horses Shod on the most approved principles, under Personal Supervision.

Horses broken to single (Rs. 15), and double Harness (Rs. 30), and Saddle (Rs. 15). Raw Wales Charged extra.

	Rs.
Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale or for treatment including Syce per mensem	35
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	5
Examination and Certificate	15
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5

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Special Mixtures, CRUSHED OATS, BRAN etc. supplied.

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PHIPSON & Co., Bombay, are now supplying 230 Military Messes and 82 Clubs with the finest VINTAGE WINES, Spirits or Liqueurs from the following well-known Houses:—

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PERRIER JOUET & Co.	Epernay.
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JAMES HAWKER & Co.	Plymouth.
JUSTERINI & BROOKS.	London.
COCKBURN & CAMPBELL.	Edinburgh
DEUTZ & GELDERMANN.	Ay.
NATH. JOHNSTON & SONS.	Bordeaux.
J. SACCONE.	Gibraltar.
COSSART, GORDON & Co.	Madeira.
A. DE LUZE ET FILS.	Bordeaux.
BUTLER, NEPHEW & Co.	Oporto.
COCKBURN SMITHES & Co.	Oporto.
VAN-ZELLERS & Co.	Oporto.
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Sterling Reserve Fund	$ 100,00,000
Silver Reserve Fund	$ 42,50,000
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AT the LAST DIVISION of PROFITS a BONUS of £ 1-8-0 per cent. was declared. The next Division of Profits will be made as at 31st December, 1905.

For Prospectuses and necessary forms please apply to

MESSRS. KING KING & Co.,
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NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO.
Standard Buildings, Bombay.

L'UNION FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED, OF PARIS.
ESTABLISHED IN 1828.
Capital Reserve and Guarantee.
Francs 103,000,000 or over £4,000,000.

WE, the Undersigned, have been APPOINTED CHIEF REPRESENTATIVES of L'Union Fire Insurance Co., Ld., of Paris, and are now prepared to Transact Fire Insurance Business at Current Rates.

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THE RETURNS FOR 1901 SHOW LARGE INCREASE TO FUNDS,

WHICH NOW EXCEED

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SPECIALLY ATTRACTIVE TERMS.

ALL
INTENDING ASSURERS
should apply for the Rates and Conditions of the
ORIENTAL.

Full Particulars and Forms may be obtained on Application at the Company's Office.

ORIENTAL BUILDINGS, BOMBAY.

R. PATERSON BROWN,
Manager.

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

ASSETS EXCEED .....Rs. 11,51,60,000
ANNUAL INCOME EXCEEDS...Rs. 1,94,80,000

This Old Established Society grants Policies with Capitalised Profits at the following LOW RATES of premiums :—

Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at Death only.		Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at Death, 20 limited payments.		Policy for Rs. 5,000 payable at age 55 or Death if it occurs sooner.	
Age next Birthday.	Yearly premium.	Age next Birthday.	Yearly premium.	Age next Birthday.	Yearly premium
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25	143 1 0	25	197 3 0	25	198 7 0
30	166 6 0	30	209 6 0	30	223 10 0
35	173 11 0	35	224 10 0	35	239 0 0
40	193 9 0	40	242 15 0	40	264 15 0

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Applications for Agencies from Gentlemen of influence throughout the country will receive every attention.

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BANK STREET, BOMBAY.

FOR SALE, WANTED, &c.

RATES.—First Three Insertions Four Annas per line. Fourth, and onward Two Annas. Minimum Charge Re. 1-8.

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Applications, stating age, pay of present or last appointment, accompanied by copies of testimonials should be submitted on or before the 24th Instant, addressed to the TRUST ENGINEER, Albert Buildings, Hornby Road.

None but those who have had previous experience in the management of an office and are qualified Accountants need apply.

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FOR the Nariad Manore Mill, a CARDING and SPINNING MASTER, of long experience. Apply with Testimonials to MANORDAS HARAKCHAND, Shamshet Street, No. 60-62, outside Fort, opposite Mulji Jaitha's Market. European preferred.

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WINE and Spirit Merchant, established in 1866, Cheapest House in Bombay for GENUINE WINES and SPIRITS, obtained direct from Europe.

Genuine Portwine at Rs. 15 per doz.
Cognac Brandy at Rs. 26 per doz.
Genuine Old Scotch Whisky at Rs. 23 per doz.
Breakfast Bacon, on cut, at Annas 14 per lb.
Cheese, on cut, at Annas 12 per lb.
Breakfast Ham at Annas 14 per lb.
Cooked Ham, sliced, in 2 lb. tins, at Rs. 2-8 per tin.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

MESSRS. TURNER, HOARE & CO. are prepared to provide Estimates, and draw up Schemes for the supply of Electric Light and Power in any District. Special rates for Mill and Factory Lighting. Electrical Catalogue now published.

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A FEW good Second-hand Semi-state Cee Spring CARRIAGES, after thorough repairs. Photo and Specification on application to

MESSRS. STEUART & Co.,
Calcutta.

HIGH-CLASS TAILORING IN ALL ITS BRANCHES,

Under a Competent, long and varied experienced Cutter, who holds best testimonials.

Wear-well Shirts good for Office wear. Rs. 16 a doz. Superior from Rs. 18 to Rs. 36 a doz. Gents' superior Drill Suits, Rs. 3-4. Flannel, Serge and Cashmere Suits, from Rs. 15 upwards. Flannel Shirts Rs. 2-4 each, Boy's Suits and Shirts in great variety, also girls' Frocks and Ladies' dresses made to order. A large Stock of ready-made Clothes on hand to select from. Superior workmanship, excellent fit and latest style guaranteed. Despatch and promptitude in execution. Mofussil orders carefully attended to. Inspection and correspondence solicited.

THE VICTORIA SEWING MART AND EMBROIDERY WORKS,

Opp. Forbes' Ice Factory, No. 10, Frere Road, Fort

E.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

LONDON, MARCH 11.

2 3-4 per cent. Consols..... £94 1-8 = — 3-16
3 per cent. Rentes..... £101 1-2 = + 1-4
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan..... £108 =
3½ per cent. Govt. Securities.... £94 1-2 =
Bar Silver in London ..... 28 1-8 = + 1-16
Do New York ..... 54 1-2 = + 1-8
Exchange on London at Paris 25'15 =
Do New York ..... 4'87 1-2 =
Discount, Bank of England, 3 per cent. =
" Short London Bills 2 5-8 " =
" Indian Bank Bills 2 5-8 " =

Amount paid into Bank of England, about £1,00,000.

Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats quiet. Manchester was quiet. Total sales 6,000 bales. Sold on speculation and for export 500 bales. Surats nil. Imports 21,000. Spot 4 25-32. Arrivals closed quiet.

Mar. Apl.	Apl.-May.	May-June.	Aug.-Sept.	Oct.-Nov.
4'44	4'44	4'43	4'41	4'27
—1	—1	—1	—1	

In New York—
Receipts at the Port..... 23,000 bales.
Do. last year..... 26,000 "
Exports to Great Britain ..... 4,000 "
Do. to Continent ..... 1,000 "
Mid-Uplands..... 9 1-8
Futures, month of June ..... 8·75—2
Do. do. Sept. ..... 8·30— 2

Linseed 54 1-4. April-May. Sellers. Tone quiet. Wheat afloat for U. K. 3,900,000.

Arrivals—Albenga, Bivima.

Arrivals of Cotton, Wheat and Seeds into Bombay, during the 24 hours ending at 6 p.m., on Tuesday, the 11th March, 1902 :—

Cotton	18,472	Bales.
Wheat	11,151	Cwts.
Linseed	24,424	"
Rapeseed	8,179	"
Gingelyseed	5,384	"
Poppyseed	nil	
Groundnuts	2,169	"
Castorseed	5,995	"
Rice	33,556	"
Myrabollams	6,274	"
Cottonseed	5,389	"

BOMBAY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12.

EXCHANGE—Tone quiet but steady.

Bank T. T.		1s 4 1-32d
Bank Demand		1s 4 1-16d
Credit Bills 3 month sight D. A		1s 4 7-32d
Do 6 do do		1s 4 11-32d
French Francs 3 do do		170 1-4
Marks 3 do do		138 1-4
Hongkong 30 Days sight.....		132 1-2
Shanghai 30 " do		180
Japan 30 " do		149

GOVERNMENT PAPER—3 1-2 per cent. Tone quiet.

Cash.....	96-6
1st Settlement	96'10

Money Market. Tone steady.

BANK RATE—

Bank of England since 6th Feb.		3 per cent.
Bank of Bombay do. 13th do...	8	do
Bank of Bengal do. 13th do...	8	do
Bank of Madras do. 7th do...	8	do

SEEDS—
Linseed.—Tone quiet.

Ready	9 8
Forward, April-May... ...	9 8

Rapeseed.—Tone quiet.

Brown Cawnpore, Ready ...	6 7 to 6 8
Do. Forward	
April-May...	6 9
Yellow Cawnpore Ready ...	Nominal.
Do. Forward	
April-May...	7 3
Yellow Guzerat, Ready ...	Nominal.
Do. Forward	
April-May...	7 14

Poppyseed.—Tone quiet.

Ready	Nominal.
Forward, April-May	7 13 to 7-14

Castorseed—Tone steady.

Ready	29 to 29 4
Forward, April-May ...	31

Groundnuts—Tone firm.

Ready	42

Gingellyseed—Tone steady.
15 per cent. Mixed, Ready... 46 8

Official quotations of the Bombay Cotton Trade Association Limited :—

Growths.	Fine.	F.-G.	Good.	Delivery.
Bengals, H.-G. (Ry. terms).....	160	154		March
Bengals, M.-G. (Ry. terms)	170	164		do.
Sind-Punjab (M.-G.) ...	170	164		do.
Belati (M.-G.)	185	179		do.
Khandeish, (M.-G.)	...	174		do.
Dhamangam Foolgam...	188	182		do.
Akola M.-G..... Khamgaum do. ..... Karanja do.	187	181		do.
Oomra good staple	195	189		do.
Broach (M. G.)	209	...	204	do.
Bhownugger (H. G.)	...	...	185	15-25 May
S.-G. Dharwar	...	...	199	do.
Westerns	...	...	187	do.

Cotton. Tone quiet.

SHARES.

The market is quiet. Port Canning have improved to 427 1-2 and Mofussils to 415. Bank of Bombay shares are in demand at 1,232 1-2.

FREIGHTS.—The market continues dull with nothing of importance to report. The ready s. s. "Idar" further booked measurement cargo for Antwerp at 14s. for April, May, and June loading, some business has been done by the Hansa line at 14s. for Hamburg.

COUNTRY TRADE.—The s. s. "Goodwin" is reported to have been chartered to load rice Rangoon to Bombay at Rs. 6-8 per ton, April loading.

THE WEATHER.

(BY TELEGRAPH.)

SIMLA, MARCH 12.

Wednesday.—The barometer has risen briskly to rapidly in the Central and East Punjab and the depression in North-West India yesterday has advanced in a south easterly direction into they east of the Gangetic plain and adjacent districts of the Central Provinces. The depression is to-day in a position favourable for thunderstorms north east India and skies are moderately to thickly clouded over that region. During the past 24 hours no rain fell in the Brahmaputra valley but Seichar received one inch of rain. Light showers of less than half an inch have fallen at Karrachi and Calicut. The depression from Persia is commencing to effect the weather in Baluchistan and on the north-east frontier, but no rain has as yet fallen.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY THE 12TH OF MARCH.

SUMMARY.

There has been a brisk fall of pressure at Allahbad a brisk to rapid rise in the Punjab and Rajputana and at Deesa and Neemuch and slight rise or fall elsewhere.

Winds in the Central and North-West Provinces are irregularly cyclonic while variable breezes or calms prevail in other places. The force has been fresh at Nagaptam, Belgaum, Poona, Aurangabad, Veraval, Dwarka and Jamnagar, and moderate to light over the rest of the country.

The temperature both maximum and minimum it still in excess of normal in many places, but is considerable less so in the North than during the pas few days.

The maximum temperature varied from 106 ° at Cuddhapah to 81 ° at Dwarka, and the minimum from 54 ° at Lahore to 81 ° at Cuddapah.

The skies are cloudy to overcast at Rajkot, Indore, Manslore, Calicut, Cochin and Colombo.

Nearly half an inch of rain has fallen at Calicut and a few drops at Cochin.

Pressure is much below normal in the Central and North-West Provinces, where the weather is unsettled, and the depression which was yesterday over the Punjab has moved eastwards into the North West Provinces.

E. A. KENYON,
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

We regret to hear from Lahore of the death o Mr. Robert Clarke, Commissioner of Lahore. Mr Clarke joined the Punjab Commission in 1864 ; and, after the present Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, was the senior member of the Commission.

The annual meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday afternoon. The Hon. Mr. W. Greaves presided, and delivered an important speech dealing with various matters affecting the Chamber and particularly with the proposed Nagda-Bara-Mattra Railway. Other speakers emphasied the importance of action being taken in regard to the matter.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE Charge for Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and MEMORIAM Notices (which must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender) is Re. 2 for six lines or less, and 8 as. for every additional line. CASH strictly in ADVANCE.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

CLAY—March 5, at Simla, the wife of Major C H Clay, 43rd Gurkha Rifles, of a son.
GREEN—March 7, at Sealdah House, Calcutta, the wife of Major C R M Greer, I M S, of a son.
MACONCHY—March 4, at Hannalt, Simla, the wife of Major E W S K Maconchy, 3rd Sikhs, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

MORBHANJ—March 6, at the Palace, Rari Sri Lachmi Saheba, wife of Raja Sriram Chardra Bhanj Deo, of Morbhanj, Orissa.
NICHOLSON—March 7, at Naini Tal, Muriel Romilly Lothian, the darling infant daughter of Captain and Mrs Lothian Nicholson, aged 7 months.

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FOR FEVER, AGUE AND GENERAL DEBILITY,
MOST EFFICIENT IN CHRONIC BRONCHITIS AND DYSPEPSIA.
When given with Iron produce marked effects in ANÆMIA, and quickly improves the complexion.
Price.—Re. 1 per bottle of 100.
KEMP & Co., Ld.,
CHEMISTS, &c. BOMBAY.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 12m. Sun sets, 6h. 9m. High water 0-25m. 0-53s. Low water, 6-25m. 6-28s.

POLO.—There will be a game at 4-4 .

HOUSE-BREAKING.—Moega Mana, a Marwari, who resides on the ground floor of a house at Kamatipoora, Bazaar Road, has made a report to the Police that during the night of the 8th instant his house was broken into and ornaments, currency notes and cash of the collective value of Rs. 532 were carried off from a box.

ROBBED WHILE ASLEEP.—Mr. Fakirchand Premchund, who resides in a bungalow in Love Lane, Byculla, has reported to the Police that a thief entered his bungalow about 3 o'clock this morning and removed two gold bangles of the value of Rs. 130 from the wrists of her sister Jakorebai, while she was asleep in a room on the ground floor of the bungalow.

POSTAL NOTICE.—Mails for Natal, Cape Colony Delagoa-Bay and other places in South Africa per extra s. s. "Transport Tagus" will be closed at the General Post Office at 9 a. m. on Tuesday the 18th inst.—Mails for Natal, Delagoa-Bay, Cape Colony and other places in South Africa per s. s. Imlaz, via Madras, will be closed at the General Post Office at 7 p. m. Tuesday the 18th inst.

WIFE FALSELY CHARGED WITH THEFT :—At the Esplanade Police Court yesterday, Mr. Karsandas Chabildas, the Third Presidency Magistrate, disposed of a case in which one Karimbhai Ebrahim a "Borah" charged his wife Vazirbee with theft on the 1st instant, of gold ornaments and clothes valued at Rs. 2,844. Mr. Kajaji, barrister-at-law, defended the accused. The story was that the complainant married the accused by "nica" 22 days ago, and then went with her to Surat. Within eight days of their going to Surat, the accused came back to Bombay. Subsequently the complainant came to Bombay and found his property missing. Evidence showed that the charge against the accused was a false one. The Magistrate fined the complainant Rs. 50, which if recovered was ordered to be paid to the accused.

THE NEW EAST INDIA PRESS COMPANY, LIMITED.—The 27th Annual Ordinary General meeting of the shareholders of the above company was held at its registered office No. 3, Tamarind Lane, Fort, yesterday afternoon, at 3 p. m. Mr. Gordhundass Soonderdass occupied the chair. The audited accounts and the balance sheet for the year ending 30th September 1901 were received and adopted. The report of the directors showed that the profit of the year of Rs. 1,41,539-13-1, was the largest the company had ever earned during its career of 27 years. Messrs. Sorabjee Cursetjee Seth and Lukhmidas Waljee retiring by rotation were re-elected directors. A dividend of Rs.175 per share was declared. Messrs Hurjevan Soonderdass and Soonderdass Narandass were appointed auditors for the year 1901 02 on a remuneration of Rs. 150. The proceedings terminated after a vote of thanks to the president.

THE BOMBAY FLOUR MILL COMPANY, LIMITED.—The 19th Ordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of the above company was held yesterday afternoon at the office of the Company, Marine Street No. 7, Mr. Sassoon J. David presided. The balance sheet and the directors' report were adopted. The report stated that the year was very promising during the first six months and the result up to the the 30th June justified an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. Early in September however the prices for flour declined by more than 10 per cent. whilst wheat remained practically unchanged. The total failure of the winter rains had a hardening effect on the wheat prices whilst the depression in the flour market had continued. Under the circumstances the profit of Rs. 97,974-11-6 was a very satisfactory result. From the profit the dividend absorbed Rs. 28,800, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum; Rs. 40,000 were to be credited to depression account and Rs. 29,174-11-6 to be carried forward to next year. The director Mr. Reginald Gilbert, who retired by rotation was re-elected. Messrl. Ferguson and Irvine were elected auditors. The proceedings then terminated after a vote of thanks to the President.

SUICIDE OF A GOANESE WOMAN.—Mr. P. Byrne, the Coroner, concluded the adjourned inquiry yesterday, at the Morgue, regarding the death of a Goanese woman, name unknown, whose body was found in the Cawasji Patel Tank, on Monday night and was subsequently identified to be that of one Mary Angelica, aged eighteen years. The deceased was the wife of one James DeSilva, a carpenter, employed at the G. I. P. Railway Workshops at Parel and lived with her husband near the Parsi statue, in Bellasis Road. She was married to De Silva about three years ago and the couple lived with the deceased's father in 13th Lane, Kamatipoora for about two years, when trouble arose between them. De Silva suspected deceased of being on improper terms with a Goanese man and complained to her father about her misconduct. He told her father not to allow her to go into the houses of other people. De Silva then left his father-in-law's house and went to reside separately with his wife near the Parsi statue. This did not seem to have mended the matter. The quarrel continued. About seventeen days ago the deceased went to her father and complained to him that her husband was beating her bodily, telling her to leave the house and that he always came home drunk and sold her ornaments and clothes of the value of Rs 200. The husband in his evidence admitted having been drunk occasionally but denied having beaten the deceased. He also admitted having pledged her jewellery with a marwaree for Rs. 75 about seventeen months ago. The jury on the evidence returned a verdict of suicide.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS COURT.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Russell presided at a sitting of the court yesterday.

RE GANESE RANGRAO.

Mr. Davar, for a creditor, applied for an order for the appointment of a special bailiff to serve summonses on persons named in the affidavit, who resided out of Bombay, remarking that the expenses would be paid by his client. His lordship granted the application. The insolvent appeared in person and was granted two months' extension of his interim order.

RE NASSAR ABDULLA SALEM.

Mr. Lowndes, on behalf of the insolvent, moved absolute the rule "nisi" for his client's final discharge Mr. Davar appeared for a creditor. After some discussion, his lordship granted the application.

RE SITTARAM SAVALIA.

Mr. Raikes appeared for the insolvent, and Mr. Davar for a creditor ; and by consent, an order was made postponing the hearing of the rule for the revocation of the adjudication order.

BOMBAY EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—"J. B." in his reply to "sympathiser" has omitted to mention the results of St. Peter's Boys' School from his list of schools in Bombay. "Comparisons are always odious," but as facts are being dealt with, I dare say "J. B." will only be too pleased to have the results of this school in addition to those which he has already obtained. They are as follows :—1900, two sent up, one successful ; 1901, one sent up, one successful. This also is one of the schools which can refute "Sympathiser's" broad statement that "no school in Bombay has a Graduate at its head", for the Principals of this School have all been graduates ; the present incumbent being a D. Sc., of London.

FACTS.

II.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—For "J. B." I am sorry—intensely sorry—that he will persist in a line of argument in so wholly illogical a manner as to have to express disappointment with the whole course of the controversy.

His formidable array of figures appears a perfect revelation at the first blush, for he now gives us, in full detail, the exact data he previously sought from me. From the whole tone of his letters I felt quite certain that he was in actual possession of the information he so persistently appeared to require.

Now that "J. B." has given us details, we may, I think, be permitted to comment upon them. A few remarks seem certainly called for. I will willingly follow his own rule, viz., that of reducing the results to one of percentage. Of course I am accepting "J. B.'s" figures without question. I notice that the Byculla Boys' School under Mr. MacNee is "facile princeps" in both years, with the excellent result of cent per cent. He uniformly maintained this grand percentage at his Poona School for his last six consecutive years there. In 1900 the excellent results of the Byculla School were equalled by the Girgaum Girls' School, and the Cathedral Girls' School, both of which, however, completely fell away in 1901, in which year, of all he Protestant Schools Mr. MacNee's is the only one that wins the unique distinction of cent. per cent. His success here is all the more conspicuous as the other six Schools are nowhere. It will be seen that 1900 the Cathedral Boys' School, under Mr. Savage, did rather well with 70 per cent of passes, whereas in 1901 the fall is very marked, viz. only 16 per cent. In this year the results of the Byculla Scottish School and the Girgaum Girls' School are very disappointing, as not a single pupil passes. The Cathedral Girls' Schools too shows a bad result of only 25 per cent. John Connon School, on the contrary exhibits a marked improvement with 60 per cent. the previous year's success being only 40 per cent. This improvement is solely due to the entertainment of a graduate in honours. I notice that "J.B." has made no mention of St. Peter's Boys' School. "J.B." requests my special attention to the success of all the girls' Schools together, (his statement No. 5). I regret to be obliged to state that his affirmation to the effect that these results are due to the employment of non-graduates is not correct. Enquiry in this direction will disclose the fact that a large number of ladies with University degrees are employed in these schools - notably Miss Hunt M.A. and Miss Evans B.A. Of all the twelve Girls' Schools in his statement No. 5, there are but five that can be considered to have done well, these are the first four and the last-named. "J. B.'s" remarks regarding Mr. MacNee's school and a good deal that follows need no notice. Permit me to leave this to the observant public. Mr. MacNee's excellent results have drawn from "J. B." Such remarks as militate against the opinion previously expressed by this ingenious gentleman in respect of Mr. MacNee's good work. Will the concensus of general opinion lean towards him or me—that is the question. "J. B's" figures and "J. B's" facts, such as they are, will however alter the actual facts of the case viz. the lamentable inefficiency of the schools that so many correspondents have already written about in no uncertain manner.

"J. B's" method of comparison is moreover quite erroneous, for he states that the Protestant Schools are better than the other schools and also worse than the other schools, which indeed show very bad results. Where does he establish his contentions successfully. I regret to have to say nowhere, and he never will. When compared with the R. C. schools I find the Protestant schools badly in back ground. They certainly need great improvement to bring them up to a standard of best efficiency. There is another point I would bring prominently before your readers. There are at all times in the IX or Matriculation Standard a far larger number of pupils than are permitted to appear at the Matriculation Examination. The truest test of the efficiency of a School lies in the comparison of the passes with the full number in the standard, and not merely those permitted to appear. Of course it will not reflect very creditably on the School to disclose all these requisite facts, and herein all the pity lies.

"J. B." wishes me to believe that he has not attempted to belittle St. Paul's School, at Darjeeling. I am glad he is willing to say now that it teaches for "high examinations"—the Cambridge Locals. I have the best reasons for my objection to Native teachers for English children. No possible argument can render their employment justifiable. A Native teacher should be employed only for Hindustani, on the same principle that the best teacher for French is a Frenchman. No one will believe that a gentleman with a university degree is unable to teach. I maintain that graduates receive an education that fully fits them to impart instruction in any subject required for the Matriculation Examination of the Bombay University. I am right glad to hear that the teachers of Bombay are "pursuing the even tenour of their way." They have, and always had, my best wishes. Permit me to conclude with a case I ask permission to quote. A young Briton from Great Britain came out to India armed with many school-board and other certificates. He found employment in a bill school. Here he proved a most incompetent teacher, and was transferred from the teaching-staff to the bursary to make room for gentlemen with University degrees. As bursar he was a colossal failure and found it expedient to resign—So much for non-graduate teaching abilities.—Yours etc.

SYMPATHISER.

III.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I wish I could congratulate your correspondent on even a "feeble attempt" at facetiousness beyond the self-proclaiming nom de plume he has adopted and seems to be enamoured of. I find however I must rather sympathise with him on the peevishness displayed in his letter to which I am now replying. Pons Asinorum, who appears, according to his own account, to be an expert at the art of debating, accuses me of not understanding the "first principles" of that art. But I always thought that the first of the "first principles" of debate is not to lose one's temper. If Pons Asinorum is ignorant of this elementary principle, I fear his knowledge of the other principles of debate is a delusion and a snare. I would advise him, therefore, to step down from his lofty eminence on the Pons Asinorum, and learn aright the "first principles" of debate before he ventures again upon a discussion in the newspapers. That eminent logician "Cosmopolitan" might also study logic a little more closely before he again presumes to describe, in his self-sufficient humour, the arguments of his opponents as illogical. My "unique" experience of 20 years has convinced me of the truth of the old adage, "Convince a man against his will, and he will be of the same opinion still," and the letter of Pons Asinorum is one more picturesque illustration of the wisdom embodied in the old adage Pons Asinorum's final blast as regards the "bewildering meshes of (my) verbosity" is a poor and very feeble invitation of Disraeli's outburst when he found that Gladstone had knocked the bottom out of all the vapoury arguments he (Disraeli) had used in a speech which was pregnant with personalities against the Grand Old Man still Disraeli's phase intoxicated with the exuberance of his own verbosity may be quoted in times to come at a masterpiece of vituperatice, but I am afraid Pons Asinorum's palsie phrasie involved in the bewildering meshes of his verbosity will not find its echo beyond the range of his own imperious self complacency—Yours &c. W. S. M.

[This correspondence is now closed.—ED "B. G."]

THE FAR EAST.

THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

USSO-CHINESE BANK'S DEMANDS.

A Peking despatched dated February 9 states that the Russian Minister at Peking, Mr. Lessar, has acceded to the amendments proposed by Prince Ching, and in place of the demands previously made he has demanded of the Chinese Government that the Russo-Chinese Bank shall have the sole privilege of mining in any part of Manchuria. This demand was met with strong representations from other Powers to the Chinese Government, and vigorous and decided opposition, on which the Russian Minister ostensibly withdrew this demand, and is now urging the Russo-Chinese Bank to negotiate for itself for this privilege with the Chinese Government, so that the Russian Government may thus evade the objections of the other Powers.

AFFAIRS AT TIENTSIN.

THE RETURN TO NATIVE GOVERNMENT.

THE REDUCTION OF THE GARRISON.

Yuan Shih-kai is said to have had a prolonged and earnest interview with the foreign ministers recently in connection with Tientsin City says a despatch dated Febny 4. The ministers are reported to have referred him to the Military Authorities in Tientsin, at least the German and English Ministers, who are opposed to handing back the City until certain important and well defined conditions have been complied with. Yuan has not been here yet himself but he sent his Secretary, Taotai Tong, who had hopes that his Yale education and fluent speech would stand him in good stead, and that if only he succeeded in getting back the City peacock's feathers, yellow jackets and buttons galore would be showered upon him. But alas for vain hopes : The Governors, Secretaries, underlings and hirelings received him with urbane hospitality, and perhaps some smiles may have recalled the day when Capt. Bayley threatened to string him up at the yard arm at Tiensin Railway Station for endeavouring to obstruct the relief of Peking, but material satisfaction he got none. The Governors were seized with temporary imbecility and declared that their powers did not go the length of promising to return anything, and at last Tong withdrew, and returned to Peking a sadder, if not a wiser man.

The opposition to the reduction of the Tientsin garrison says a message of the 14th Feb. to the "Overland China Mail" comes from the German Commander, Major-General von Rohrscheidt. The Commanders of other nationalities are now willing to accede to the pressing requests of the Chinese authorities, to withdraw a considerable part of the troops from Tientsin, and leave only a nominal force, but the German General declines to do so on any consideration.

This being so, there is no prospect at present of the foreign provisional government of the native city prefecture being abolished. The British railway administration will also remain as it is at present, which is considered here to be a matter for congratulation, as the Royal Engineers have done the work in a most excellent manner, giving general satisfaction to all concerned.

The Japanese Commissariat Depôt, on Victoria Road, has been entirely destroyed by fire. It was a tremendous blaze many thousand tons of coal, fodder, and other supplies being stacked there. The damage runs into millions of dollars.

General O'Moore Creagh, in response to the universal protest against the injustice of omitting to add to the China Expedition medal any special clasp denoting the siege of Tientsin, has sent despatches to the home authorities setting forth the facts of the case.

VESSEL LOST IN RHIO STRAITS.

SIXTEEN MEN MISSING.

The "Singapore Free Press" of the 10th Feb. says:—The Captain of the G. G. Meyer, which arrived here on Sunday morning, reports that on the evening of the 5th inst., he picked up from Bank a Island, the Chief Officer, Mr. Roos, the Chief Engineer, Mr. Vorsung and part of the crew nine in number of the Steamer Berandan which foundered on the morning of the 5th in the Rhio Straits.

The Berandan, a steamer of 312 tons net, was under the Dutch flag, and was on a voyage from Bajoeng Lentji to Pulau Samboe with a cargo of kerosine. On the morning of the 5th, when in East Long 105 and N. Lat. 1·29, the Berandan met with heavy weather, and a heavy sea came in over the bows, causing her to sink almost immediately. There was absolutely no time to get out the boats. The Chief Engineer, who with the rest of those below had come on deck when it was inevitable that the vessel could not live, was thrown into the water, and after about ten minutes immersion came to one of the boats floating bottom upwards. He swam towards it, and with the help of some of the native crew that were clinging to it, managed to right it, several of the natives got in and bailed her out, and then picked up the remainder. Shortly afterwards, they came to the Chief Officer and more of the crew clinging to another capsized boat. Help was given, and this boat was then righted. Still experiencing heavy weather, they made the best of their way to Pulau Banka, arriving there at 5 p.m. on the 5th. The G. G. Meyer was there, and brought them on to Singapore.

A Dutch Government steamer has gone to the place of the disaster to search for any trace of Captain Julian, and any others of the crew that survive. Sixteen of them, as well as the Captain, are missing at present.

Messrs. Hooglandt and Co. are the agents for the Berandan, and have asked all vessels going in that direction to look out for the missing men. It is hoped and believed that some of the natives will be picked up, but it is stated that Captain Julian cannot swim, and therefore there does not to seem much possibility of his being saved.

TERRIBLE DISASTER IN JAPAN.

OIL WORKS BURIED BY AN AVALANCHE.

A telegram dated Kobe, February 10, says :—The Ohiro petroleum works a big refinery establishment at Kutsunosawa, near Niigata (west cost of Japan) has been the scene of a terrible and unprecedented disaster.

The works were located under the brow of a steep hill and there had been a heavy fall of snow. Suddenly a huge avalanche thundered down from a sheer height of six hundred feet, crushing and burying the oil works, buildings, tanks, reservoirs, offices and work-people's dwellings. Part of the place was completely submerged ; another portion had the roofs crushed in and buildings shattered causing an outbreak of fire, which reached the oil and spread with awful rapidity through that part of the buildings less heavily buried.

Up to the time of latest telegrams, eight dead bodies have been recovered, and four persons dug out terribly injured, barely alive. The total number buried and burnt is not yet ascertained

THE CHINESE REGIMENT AT WEI-HAI-WEI.

The Wei-hai-wei correspondent of the "China Mail" writing in reference to the proposed disbandmen of the Chinese Regiment says :—It is almost incredible that the War Office, eccentric though we now it to be can contemplate disbanding a regiment that has such vast possibilities before it, just when its success has been practically proved. Its record is surely not one to call for condemnation. It stands to-day, roughly, 1,300 men, 1,090 of whom are trained in every particular. The organisation is excellent, so much so that a series of experiments have shown that a thousand men fully equipped could be moved anywhere in two hours, with their own transport (mules), Maxim gun and signallers. This last is an achievement worthy of note. The Battalion has a staff of twenty-four signallers, who, although they have been under instruction only some six months, are efficient for all practical purposes. Another not inconsiderable asset the Regiment can claim is its ability, if necessary, to altogether dispense with the assistance of interpreters, as there are eighteen officers who have passed in the Chinese language, and also eight British Non-Commissioned officers. From this it is evident that the Battalion is a distinct acquisition to the Imperial Forces. I know that the detractors will at once say, 'But how about desertions ?' There were undoubtedly in the early days of the Regiment an appalling numberof desertions, but who can wonder at it ? The record of the last twelve months is however, a very different one. When the Battalion was ordered for Corea, out of 1,200 men, only twelve were lost by desertion.

THE CANTON CUSTOMS.

This morning, information reaches us that the transfer of native Customs to the Imperial Maritime Customs duly took place at Canton on Monday last, but as we already foreshadowed the transfer is of the most formal description and is not calculated to benefit foreign traders to any appreciable extent. Preferential duties upon junk-borne cargoes will continue, and the business will be carried on substantially as if no change of supervision had occurred—"China Mail," Feb. 22.

A ROYAL CRIME.

(Concluded from page 4.)

Meanwhile the conspirators had carried out their design with complete success. Early in the morning of the previous day, the Empress had left the Chateau of Peterhoff for St. Petersburg, where she was received with boundless enthusiasm by the priests, the three regiments of the Guards, and the populace, and forthwith proclaimed, Sovereign-Autocrat. There are many elements of comedy in this most stupendous of tragedies. When Peter returned with his suite to Peterhoff he was greatly nonplussed at the absence of his consort. Failing to find her in the Chateau, he made his way to the Pavilion and explored all the rooms, "turning out drawers and cupboards, peeping under beds and mattresses and other impossible hiding-places, screaming all the time to the inseparable Gudovich (his mistress), 'Didn't I always tell you that she was capable of anything.'" Let us hasten to the end, passing over Peter's fruitless offers of compromise and appeals for clemency. With little ceremony, the deposed Emperor was bustled from Peterhoff to his country house at Ropsha, and placed under guard. Here comes in another touch of comedy, Feeling lonely the poor man asked for his fiddle, his poodle, his German doctor and his negro servant, Narcisse, On the 18th of July, Catherine was sitting down to dinner, when a courtier arrived from Ropsha and handed her a note from Alexius Orloff, the favourite's brother. From this remarkable document, which was first printed in 1881, we cull a few sentences :

Matyuska (little mother) he is no more. But nobody thinks it, and what were we thinking to raise our hand against our Gosudar. He struggled behind the table with Prince Theodor. I myself don't remember what we did, but the whole lot of us are guilty and worthy of punishment. Have mercy upon me, if only for my brother's (Gregory) sake. The world is unmerciful, we have angered thee and lost our souls for ever.

Such was the miserable end of Peter III., after a brief and barren reign of six months. Whether he died of poisoning, or strangulation, or both, has not been ascertained. The Empress's part can only be a matter of conjecture. All that is clear is that the crime was to her advantage, and that the assassins were her chosen accomplices.

PASSENGERS PER S. S. SALAZIE.

THE following passengers will sail to-day at 10-30 a. m., per Messageries Maritimes Company's steamer Salazie, for Marseilles, &c. from Princes Dock shed A. There will be the usual medical inspection at the Dock at 10 a.m. Third class deck passengers, native servants and Ayahs must be at the Prince's Dock disinfecting shed at 8-30 a.m. with all their luggage.

FOR MARSEILLES.

Anklesaria Mr M N
Bussiere Mr and Mrs
Bryer Mr W H
Banajee Mr L N
Banbury Col
Baumgartner Miss
Barnes Mr F
Briol Mr
Chemiaux Mr and Mrs
Courage Major and Mrs K
Collyns Miss
Cole Mr and Mrs R S
Clouree Mr A
Cogni Mr
Duysburg Mr
Demetriadi Mr A C
Dimmock Mrs and child
Dickson Miss
Dauvergne H Mr
Declard Mr
Dickson Capt and Mrs and infant
De Traversey Mr
Dessain Mr
Dengoso Mr
Fotiades Mr and Mrs
Frost Mrs
Frigiero Mr
Faure Mr and Mrs
Giamacopuls Mr and Mrs
Gallop Mr
Goaon Mr E
Haigh Miss R
Haiga Mr V
Hammond Capt
Hewson Mr and Mrs and child
Hart Mrs
Hunt Mr
Huroit Mr
Hitchen Mr and Mrs
Jambon Mr
Krosonoff Capt and Mrs
Legrand Mr
Lakranje Mr and Mrs
Melding Mr
Major Miss
Mangakis Mr M
Marshall Mr H D
MacLeod Capt
Mayne Mrs and infant and ayah
Mertens Mr and boy
Oliver Mr and Mrs C and infant
Poncel Mr
Pontus Mr and Mrs
Richards Misses two
Rougier Mr
Richards Mr
Russell Mr and Mrs J B
Rawson Mr C
Ross Mr F
Rafli Mr
Ranart Mr and Mrs
Shrager Mr
Stone Mr R S
Spence Capt and Mrs
Steward R Mrs
Smeeth Mrs
Satasawalla Mr P
Sotna Mr R M
Sevadjian Mr G
Sladden Mr
Talib Pasha and 2 infants
Taylor Cavendish Miss
Taylor Mr
Vanrela Mr
Valaner Mr
Vanutbergue Mr
Villard Mr
Williams Mrs
Wecsser Major

3 Deck passengers from Haiphong and Saigon to Marseille s
Frenchmarines.
3 Deck passengers from Bombay to Marseilles.

HIGH COURT.—MARCH 13.

Before the Hon'ble Mr Justice RUSSELL.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

Long Causes.

53-99—Ardeshir H D and Co—The New Great Eastern S and W Co, Ld vs Dwarkadas Shamjee and another—Thakurdas and Co—Part heard.
23-02—Payne G S and M—Tejpal Gadoo and others vs S Lakhmichand and others—Tyabjee D and Co.
611-01—Postonji R and K—Bajbai widow vs Chuji Goculdas—Crawford B and Co.
30-00—Shamrao and M—Hajee Ahmed Hajee Osman vs Yamunbai—Mulla and M.
184-02—Matubhai J and M—Yasin bin Abdul and another vs Abdul Rahim Shaik Bulan and others—Mulla and M, Smethan B and N, and Mirza and M.
698-01—Thakurdas D and Co—Khimjee Jairam Narotjee vs Sarabhai Vajeshanker and another—Bhaishanker and K and Little and Co.
657-01—Payne G S and M—Bijnath Neharmal vs Dayabhai Tapidas—Chitnis M and M.
658-01—Payne G S and M—Bijnath Neharmal vs Dayabhai Tapidas—Chitnis M and M.
737-01—Dikshit and D—Morarjee Kalianjee vs Vijbhukandas Jadusha—Chitnis M and M.
547-01—Dikshit and D—Hajee Ramchandra Bhutwalkar and another vs Narayan Ramchandra Pendse and others.

For further directions and costs on Commissioner's report.

370-70—Wadia and G—Karmally Rahimchoy and others vs Rahimchoy Habibchoy and others—Thakurdas and Co.
962-63—Craigie L and C—The Advocate General and others vs Rahimchoy Habibchoy and others—Roughton and B.

Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice STARLING.

Suits for hearing and final disposal.

Long Causes.

594-71—Tyabjee D and Co—Ebrahim Hajee Mahomed and another vs Hajee Janmahomed—Framjee and D and Wadia and G.—Part heard.

Petitions for hearing.

In the matter of the Indian Company's Act VI of 1882 and in re the Aurungabad S and M Co Ld—Matubhai J and M for Company—Bhaishunker and K and G K S Doraswami Iyer Petitioner.

In the matter of the Indian Company's Act VI of 1882 and in re the Aurungabad S and M Co Ld—Mathubhai J and M Ardeshir H D and Co for shareholders—Ardesir H D and Co Dorabjee Jamsetjee Tata and others Petitioner.

Long Causes.

388-01—In person a pauper.—Apolonia vs J A de Souza and others—Sorabjee and J.—Part heard.
265-01—Tyabjee D and Co—Bai Kesshor Vahoo and another vs Ranchordas Haridas and another—Payne G S and M.
517-99—Edgelow G and W—Mahomed Ebrahim Abu Goolam Hossain Hamdadar and other s vs Hajee Mahomed Ebrahim bin Hajee Allawoodia Jitekar and others—Crawford B and G and C and V.
883-00—Thakurdas and Co—Hajee Saboo Sidick and others vs Hajee Cassum Joosub and others—S B and N.
58-00—Nana and H—Kashibhai Nowrojee Kabrajee vs Dinshaw Edaljee Vatcha and others—Dikshit and D and Madhavjee V.
719-99—Khunderao and S—M Ramgopal and others vs M Lalljimull and others—Pestonji R and K.
429-95—Payne G S and M—Nusserwanjee Nowrojee vs Vazirbhai widow—Khunderao.

Before the Hon'ble Justice CHANDAVARKAR.

For Judgment.

542-00—Tyabjee D and Co—Hajee Noor Mahomed Hajee Abdulla vs Vithaldas Khetsey—Wadia and G.

For consent order of reference

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BERLIN WOOLS	BALACLAVAS
KNITTING YARNS	SWEATERS
LOHIS	GLOVES

ETC. ETC.

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These Lamps must not be confounded with those generally sold in Bombay, under the name of HINKS' LAMPS, where, perhaps, a small part bears the name "Hinks," while the other portions consist simply of some cheap foreign stuff, thus making it appear that the whole article is manufactured by Messrs. HINKS & SONS.

Our Prices for the genuine Lamp compare most favourably with those sold in the Bazaar for so-called HINK'S LAMPS.

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J. BEGBIE,
Secretary and Treasurer.

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Legal proceedings will be taken against all persons pirating the abovenamed Cigars, or in any way infringing the rights of the Proprietors or Manufacturers of COMMODORE WHELER CIGARS.

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	Rs.	a.
SLEEPING SUITS	10	8
SOFT SHIRTS, 6 for	13	8
FLANNEL SUITS	30	0
POCKET HDKFS., doz.	4	8
SERGE SUITS	35	0
WARM SUITS	45	0
ULSTERS	48	0
DRESSING GOWNS	10	8
SOFT CAPS, SILK-LINED.	3	8

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BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE BALLOTING for an Elective Trustee in place of Mr. F. V. BICKEL, whose term of office expires on 31st March 1902, having resulted in a tie between two candidates is becomes necessary under Rule 7 of the Chamber's Rules for the Election of Port Trustees to hold a fresh ballot in respect of that vacancy.

The Committee have therefore appointed MONDAY and TUESDAY, 24th and 25th March 1902, for such fresh ballot.

By Order of the Committee.

FREDERICK NOEL-PATON.
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 13th March, 1902.

PRESS OPINION.

"MESSRS. MARCKS & Co., LTD., have issued their NEW PIANOFORTE CATALOGUE, a very Artistic Booklet splendidly illustrated. This enterprising firm are Agents for some of the best Pianos, amongst which the ERARD deserve special mention. Our readers will remember that a year ago, Messrs. S. & P. Erard with unparalleled generosity, presented the town of Bombay with a magnificent Concert Grand Piano to be used at Concerts. The public at large have scarcely yet learnt how to appreciate the wonderful Musical qualities of those Instruments. True their noble tone can best be drawn out by an Artist's hand but an Artist is trained more quickly on an Erard than on any other Piano, as its delicate action discourages thumping. Their unassuming appearance and high price tell against them in a country swamped with Cheap Pieces of Furniture, but their sterling qualities of durability and beauty of tone should in time meet with adequate recognition. We wish MARCKS & Co. every success in their endeavour to provide for India High Class Pianos.'

ERARD PIANOFORTES,
SOLE AGENTS,

MARCKS & Co., LD.,

BOMBAY AND POONA.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1902.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

In the report of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, which was presented to the annual meeting yesterday, an innovation is made which will tend to increase its value as a record of business. By it each volume will become practically a continuation of its predecessor and we shall therefore have the reports consecutive records of the progress of public commercial events and enterprises which have come before the Chamber. In the report for the year just closed railway matters claim prominence, and are the more interesting on account of the recent visit of the Railway Commissioner and the strong representations made by the Chamber as to the neglected aspirations of Bombay. The Nagda-Bara-Muttra line was under discussion at the time the last report was issued and we find it recorded that the importance of the line was admitted and that, subject to the Secretary of State, Government had decided to construct it "as funds could be made available without prejudice to the demands for certain other lines which, for obvious reasons, must have preference." It still remains in the air however, as does the Rewari-Phulera chord and numerous other projects contrary to the wishes of the Chamber, which has offered Government the benefit of its advice on the subject on more than one occasion. On the "general disabilities of Bombay in respect of railway communication" Government has been frequently addressed and it has been pointed out that the railways included in the "Forecast of Expenditure on Railways" for the three years ending 1903-05," the only railways included which could in any way mitigate the disabilities of Bombay are the Agra-Delhi chord, the Amalner-Jalgaon line and the Chalisgam-Dhulia line. The pressing necessity for the construction of the Nagda-Bara-Muttra line was again and again impressed on Government, and of this project in its last received communication the Government of India remarks that the line will open out new country and eventually offer competitive through communication between Bombay and Delhi, but till the Agra-Delhi chord is constructed there will be no direct untrammelled broad gauge communication between Bombay and Delhi at all.

On the general question of increased facilities for the carriage of goods to Bombay it is recorded that the Chamber called the attention of Government to the very serious impediments to the Bombay trade with the North-West caused by the failure of the railways in that region not directly connected with this port to furnish rolling-stock for the carriage of goods destined for this side of India. The Chamber, through its Committee submitted that under the provision of the Railway Act of 1890 and the Conference regulations thereunder, it is the duty of the railways upon which traffic originates to provide wagons for that traffic irrespective of its destination. This being so, the Chamber is of opinion that if the traffic for one port was provided by a particular railway administration with wagons to the detriment of traffic for another port, the action of that Railway Administration constituted undue preference under the Railway Act. The Committee, therefore, submitted that either the existing regulation should be enforced or that the Railways leading to Bombay should simply be given running powers over the East Indian Railway system from Jubbulpore to Allahabad over the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, and over the Punjab Railways as far as Saharanpur. The enforcement of the regulation was regarded as the more legitimate, but the latter as affording the better remedy. Nothing, however, has been conceded and the Chamber now holds to the hope that Mr. Robertson, the Railway Commissioner, will be able to help on the reforms they advocate. In the eminently practical representations which Mr. Armstrong made to the Commissioner last January, it will be remembered, he urged the desirability of Government creating a reserve of say five thousand wagons to be let out to Railways at a charge which would pay a moderate interest. And he forced home upon the Commissioner the observation made by Sir Allan Arthur that if we suddenly found ourselves at war and Government indented on the railways for three thousand wagons the trade of the country would be paralysed. Further Mr. Armstrong as spokesman of the Chamber, demonstrated, how Bombay has been neglected of late years and showed that a feeling is gaining ground here that the Government is more interested in Bengal than in Bombay. The Hon'ble Mr. Greaves, the Chairman of the Chamber, in his speech yesterday drove home the arguments which Mr. Armstrong brought forward before Mr. Robertson in January and the effect of which may be considerable to enlighten Government as to railway requirements and induce it to do the fair thing of Bombay.

The Chairman of the Chamber, the Hon'ble Mr. W. Greaves, in a temperately worded speech, moved the adoption of the report whose contents indicate the line of policy, which the committee and he, as its head, is nominally responsible. He is firm in the advocacy of the construction of the Nagda-Bara-Muttra line and in reference to Mr. Robertson's suggestions urged that Government carefully compare not only the present facilities of the respective ports but to see how and to what extent such ports are capable of enlargement and when making such comparisons, bear in mind that the draughts of steamers must steadily increase, a fact for which has already been admitted by the management of the Suez Canal who have decided to deepen the channel to 33 feet. He stands by the representations made in his absence, to the Railway Commissioner and in view of the substantial surplus, that Government will announce during the present month, urged that an earnest appeal be addressed to the Viceroy, who has declared that he will not be deterred from following the steadfast policy of railway construction in this country, to recognise Bombay as the first port in India and its pressing needs of increased railway facilities. At the meeting yesterday Mr. S. M. Moses introduced more controversial matter in a reference to the currency question arguing that the cause of our present ills is to be found in the closing of the mints to the free coinage of silver and contended that the relief secured by Government had been at the expense of the Indian taxpayers and with the effect of increasing every debt on fixed payment in India. To the same cause he attributed the depression on the mill industry and the fact that no less than fourteen mills are about to be liquidated. It is a subject on which the report expresses no opinion, but the chapter on Cotton indicates a general improvement in the trade and considerably brighter prospects in the near future. The chairman's review is a comprehensive resume of the year's work which, taken as a whole, cannot but be considered satisfactory and although he indulged in no flights of fancy as to the good times coming, he certainly took no pessimistic view of the situation or of the future of the first post in India. It is plain however, that the Chamber will have to be firm in its advocacy of the claims of Bombay if it is to continue to hold its proud position and to retain it in these times of keen competition and of a pronounced tendency on the part of Government to overlook its legitimate aspirations.

THE WEALTH OF INDIA.

It seems to be hopeless to expect the two schools of disputants on India's wealth and poverty, and the responsibility or otherwise of British rule for the woes that afflict this country, ever to acknowledge that the views of the other side may possibly be correct. Statistics can be adapted to any sort of argument even when the figures are accepted by the two sets of controversialists, but when the statestics themselves are called in question the way is open to endless discussion. Lord George Hamiltoa and Mr. William Digby differ in the interpretation to be put on the official returns relative to India's social and economic condition. And now Mr. Digby and Mr. F. J. Atkinson, the Deputy Accountant General of Bengal, are disputing as to the accuracy of figures from which the income and wealth of India is calculated. Mr. Atkinson recently read a paper before the Royal Statistical Society which was described as a statistical review of the income and wealth of British India, and in the week the mail left, Mr. Digby, in the course of the discussion, replied in a statement challenging the correctness of Mr. Atkinson's figures. These, indeed, he described as "fancy figures," and entered into detail to show what he considered to be the unsoundness of the Bengal official's calculations. Estimates of the general produce of land based on experimental cultivation by Government are altogether misleading, as Mr. Digby does not fail to point out to his opponent, who has exposed himself to his trenchant criticism by this method of calculation. Mr. Atkinson appears to have improved on the Government figures for, taking the least trustworthy estimates of the crop yields he has based on these a reasoning in which it is assumed that full crops are reaped from all fields every year. By this means he arrives at the conclusion that in 1895, that is before the period of famine, there was available after allowing for export, produce amounting to 1,739 lbs. per head against 1,701 lbs. in 1875. According to this calculation, therefore, in the twenty years the material condition of the Indian peasant had improved to the extent of 38 lbs. of grain per head. In reference to this Mr. Digby urges that Mr. Atkinson has overlooked the quantity of grain to be allowed for seed, cattle food and wastage which the Famine Commissioners of 1898 estimated at one-seventh of the produce. He also objects that a comparison which takes no account of the losses in recent years by famine, which he sets down at three hundred millions sterling is altogether unfair and fallacious. The ultimate result of Mr. Atkinson's calculations is that, exceeding the complacent optimism of Lord George Hamilton and Lord Curzon, who deem the agriculturist passing rich on an income of Rs. 20 per annum, he figures out the agricultural income at Rs. 35-9 per head. Mr. Atkinson has also endeavoured to make matters appear better than they are by the assumption that every adult male is continuously employed all the year round with the exception of seventeen days in the year. The largeness of this assumption is obvious. No official optimist has ventured to assert that India has no problem of the unemployed; on the contrary opinion is growing as to the necessity of a recognised system of poor relief on the lines of the English poor law, quite apart from the exigencies of famine. But setting aside this growing problem which is visible in the cities, Mr. Digby scores palpably off his opponent when he brings forward the statement of Sir James Caird who, after his experience as a Famine Commissioner, declared that twenty millions of adult males were wanting work for a great part of the year throughout India. This, of course, represents the unemployment due to vagaries of seasons and the extensive relief measures now devised meet as effectively as is possible the exceptional conditions set up by drought and scarcity. Mr. Atkinson's alluring picture of the wealth of the people of India is helped out by figures which multiply many times the incomes of the professional classes on the assumption that many, who should, do not pay the income tax and that others do dot pay the lawful proportion due from them. Mr. Digby is unsparing in his criticism of these figures and makes out a good case in support of his statement that Mr. Atkinson has exaggerated the income and resources of British India. On the other hand it has not to be forgotten that though Mr. Digby's own figures in his book "Prosperous British India," cannot well be impugned, the conclusions which he draws from them are by no means universally accepted.

THE REDUCED CABLE RATES.

THE reduction of the rate for ordinary cablegrams between India and Europe to half a crown a word has been long in coming, but it is satisfactory that it is at last a fact. The reduced tariff came into force on the first instant and already we believe there has been an appreciable increase in the cable traffic. The concession now in operation is not the result of the confabulations of any individual with persons in "high quarters." It was promised two years ago as the result of the incessant agitation of commercial men supported by the Press of India for years, and it is somewhat absurd to claim, as does a correspondent of a contemporary, that we owe the reduction to Lord Curzon or the efforts of the other individual named. During the last two years we have been repeatedly told that the attitude of Russia and Germany stood in the way of the execution of the Cable Company's promises and if any individual is to be given credit for the fact that the new rate has not been longer postponed it is Sir Edward Sassoon, who vigorously and ceaselessly voiced the dissatisfaction felt at the delay in giving effect to the promised reduction. In that, of course, he was supported by the Indian Press and by no portion of it more cordially than by this journal which, indeed, has been prominent in its advocacy, of commercial interests against the Cable Companies throughout the protracted agitation for fairer rates. We are not quite satisfied yet. We regard the half crown rate as but an earnest of a further reduction for the benefit of merchants, while in reference to the reduced rates for press messages we see no serious reason why the concession should have stopped at one shilling. Compared with the new tariff for ordinary messages the reduction on press cablegrams is small, amounting only to four annas a word. But for the present a greater reduction would undoubtedly lead to a block and an increased delay in messages in regard to which all other telegrams have precedence.

UNITED STATES TRADE IN 1901.

SOME interesting particulars of the trade of the United States in the year 1901 have been published by the Washington Bureau, the most striking feature of which to British manufacturers is, perhaps, the enormous disparity between our imports, from and our exports to, the United States. While our purchases from America in 1901 amounted to £151,000,000, we sold to the States goods worth only £18,500,000, figures which show a lamentable falling off in British trade. The export record of 1901 is regarded as very satisfactory, compared with that of 1900 or of any preceding year. While there was a reduction of £20,000,000 in the value of exports of certain principal articles, chiefly corn, copper, cotton, iron and steel, there was a sufficient increase in other articles, notably wheat, flour, provisions and cotton manufactures, practically to offset this reduction. The reduction in exports of corn, as is well-known, was due solely to the great shortage in the corn crop. In cotton, while there was an increase of 155,000,000 lbs. in the exports, there was a decrease of £2,600,000 in value. The reduction in iron and steel exports was partly due to reduced prices and partly to a decrease in quantities exported. Of the five principal articles, which show a decrease, cotton and mineral oils both show an actual increase in quantity though a decrease in value.

MR. J. E. O'CONOR, C.I.E., Director General of Statistics to the Government of India, with the permission of that Government, has accepted an offer made to join the British Commercial Commission, under H.E. Sir James Mackay, at Shanghai, as Assistant Commissioner with a salary of Rupees 2,500 per month, plus allowances. It is quite on the cards, says the "Overland China Mail," that Mr. O'Conor will not return to India, but may elect to join the service in China. An official of Mr. O'Conor's standing and ability will be welcomed by commercial men in Hongkong and the Treaty Ports, but how will his presence here affect the Commercial Attache's position in China?

MR. L. N. BANAJEE, Prothonotary of the High Court, goes on nine months' leave from to-day. Mr. R. D. Setna acts for Mr. Banajee, while Mr. L. U. Crump, I. C. S., acting District Judge of Hyderabad, acts for Mr. Setna as Registrar on the Appellate Side of the Court.

THERE is great activity in building construction in the Arvenghat Valley, Nilgiris, and large sums of public money are being expended to put things in order as speedily as possible; but with the utmost despatch, says the local paper, cordite will not be manufactured locally for another two years at least.

A HONGKONG telegram says: One of the comprador's shroffs of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has been arrested, charged with embezzling the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars. The Bank is secured.

A NEW service of trains between Madras and Calcutta will be introduced from the 1st proximo, the time of the journey being reduced by several hours. The train from Calcutta will arrive in Madras in the afternoon, in time to catch the evening Mails from the Egmore and Central Stations. The train for Calcutta will leave in the morning, late enough to form connection with the Mail trains arriving at Egmore and Central Stations.

THE Matunga Residents' Association have forwarded a petition to the Agent of the G. I. P. Railway in reference to grievances in the matter of facilities for third class passengers travelling from Matunga to Bombay.

As the revised figures of the Indian Census have now been issued, the public will look forward with interest to the Provincial Reports which precede the Imperial Report by the Census Commissioner. The reports of the 1891 Census did not come in, for the most part, until the middle of 1893. In 1901, Mr. Risley foresaw that the new system of compiling the figures would make a great difference in the matter of time, and accordingly, April 1st, 1902, was fixed as the date by which the Provincial Reports were to be sent in. This was a bold departure, and the great Provinces will not work up to that date: it is hardly possible that they can; but already nearly the whole of the Assam Report has been forwarded to the Census Commissioner; Rajputana and Central India are well advanced; and Madras will not be much behind time. The remainder should be ready by June or July. As to the Imperial report, we understand that Mr. Risley has written a good deal of matter of a descriptive character, dealing with religion, ethnology, &c., and he hopes to get the report published by November. It will contain one novel feature, and ethnological sketch of the prevalent physical types of the people of India based on measurements taken at various times and completed for various out lying Provinces, such as Baluchistan, during the last few months. Meanwhile, from time to time, tabular statements will be published in the "Gazette of India," though all the tables will not be issued in this way, as some are much too bulky. The statistics of Christian sects, which promise to be of special interest in the present census, will probably appear this month.

A ROYAL CRIME.

THE TRAGIC END OF PETER III.

The dark chronicles of Russia contain few things more wicked or revolting than the foul deed which was perpetrated at the Chateau of Ropsha on the 18th July, 1762. In its manner and motive this brutal murder of a crowned head bears more resemblance to the lurid themes in which the dramatic genius of Æschylus delighted than to a page of modern history. Among living writers there was probably no one better qualified to do justice to the subject than Mr. Nisbet Bain. His work on "The Pupils of Peter the Great" had proved that he was thoroughly at home among the intrigues and fitful fortunes of the Russian Court during the first half of the eighteenth century. The latest product of his pen Peter III, Emperor of Russia. The story of a Crisis and a Crime bears evidence of careful investigation and much critical acumen, qualities of the first importance in dealing with an episode which by its very horror was calculated to gather around itself a vast amount of falsehood, exaggeration, and partisan theories. He has excluded everything that is not germane to the theme, and his monograph has consequently all the attraction and symmetry of a well-told romance.

Charles Peter Ulric (such was the full name of the ill-starred Emperor) had in his veins the Royal blood of Sweden and Russia. He was born at Kiel on the 21st February, 1728, and was the only son of Charles Frederick, Duke of Holstein. Like his father, he was called Charles after his paternal great-uncle Charles XII., the soldier King of Sweden, while he owed his second name to his grandfather, Peter the Great, the maker of modern Russia. Thus, if illustrious progenitors counted for everything, Peter III.'s life ought at least to have been one of imperial magnificence. He seems, however, from his birth to have been marked out for misfortune. His mother died when he was but ten days old, having taken a chill in watching illuminations prepared in honour of her child's birth.

His father is described as a petty German princelet striving to ape his better—peevish, haughty, narrow-minded, and given to overtaxing his subjects in order to maintain an establishment out of proportion to his means and his importance. The death of the father in 1739 left the lad at the mercy of a brutal German instructor and a couple of pedants. Before his 13th birthday, an event occurred which completely diverted the current of his life, and seemed to promise him a future of splendour and power. "On the night of Dec. 6, 1741, his aunt, the Tsarevna Elizabeth Petrovna, at the head of the Preobrashensky Grenadiers, overthrew the existing Russian Government, and the first thing the new Empress did on feeling securely established on her throne was to send for her nephew, her one remaining male kinsman, whom she had already resolved to adopt as her successor." The boy's removal from Holstein to St. Petersburg was attended with great secrecy, but once arrived at the Russian capital he was received with all the honours due to his exalted position. His personal appearance at this time was far from prepossessing.

Exsraordinarily pale and thin, with his lank blond hair combed straight down over his collar, and profusely powdered in the so-called Spanish fashion, the odd little figure held itself as stiff and straight as a wooden soldier, with its narrow tiny head projecting a good inch in front of its body, and when spoken to, Charles Peter Ulric responded in a queer jargon of broken French and German uttered with a strident squeak of piercing intensity.

The little Duke, in short was a weakling in mind and body. He delighted, above all things in playing with tin and wooden soldiers and, although he exhibited a phenomenal memory, his capacity never rose above that of a child. The Empress procured for him the best instructors which her Imperial resources could command, but with little or no result. Worse than all, he soon gave signs of a strange and unconquerable dislike for the country of his adoption, seldom missing an opportunity of slighting its language, its customs, and its religion.

He was only in his eighteenth year when the second great event which was to shape his destiny took place. On the 21st August, 1745, at St. Petersburg, the Grand-Duke was married to the German Princess, Sophia Augusta Frederika of Anhalt Zerbst, who had previously been received into the Orthodox Church under the name of Catherine Alekseyevna. The bride is described as a young lady of preternatural precocity, shrewd, piquant, and unscrupulous. Such a union was, as Mr. Bain observes bound to end in a catastrophe. Catherine's apologists have denounced Peter as a profligate, a drunkard, and a brute. Mr. Bain will have it that he was none of these things. "What he most resembled was a wooden mannikin set on wires, perpetually agitated by some capricious and eccentric motive power. Never for an instant could he keep still. When he was not rushing about from place to place he would always be shifting from leg to leg, thrusting out his tongue, making faces, and incessantly gabbling about whatever came uppermost in his mind, no matter where he might be."

With all his imbecility he was not without talent of a sort. Even his detractors allow that he was a skilful player of the violin. He spoke Russian, German, and French, and showed considerable literary taste in his accumulation of books. He loved his pipe even more than his fiddle, and his extraordinary passion for toy soldiers and bijou fortifications remained with him to the last. He shocked the Court by mixing with Italian opera-singers and "blabbing out" State secrets, and forfeited the last vestige of respect ever entertained for him by the nation by his hilarious buffooneries with the Holstein officers, for whom he showed a marked preference. Peter was in every way too much of a simpleton for the part he was called upon to play, either as Czar of All the Russias or as husband of Catherine.

Soon after the marriages coldness sprang up between the two which rapidly developed into mutual loathing. Notwithstanding these peculiar relations, Catherine, on the 1st October, 1754, was confined, of a fine boy, afterwards christened Paul. This event, though it gave unbounded satisfaction to the Empress Elizabeth, put an end to all show of courtesy between the young couple. On the 4th January, 1762, Elizabeth Petrovna, after a prolonged illness, passed away, and her nephew was immediately proclaimed Emperor under the title of Peter III. At the beginning of his reign the new Emperor displayed a feverish energy, and projected many reforms which, had they ripened into fact, would have entitled him to the gratitude of his subjects. His zeal for good government, however, soon gave way to his congenital love of frivolities. With his contempt for Russia, he had conceived an idolatrous regard for Frederick II., King of Prussia, at whose instigation he betrayed his allies, Austria and France, and patched up a treaty of peace which threw away all the advantages Russia had gained from the Seven Years War. He never tired of alluding to the Prussian monarch as "the King my master." This peculiar, mania became not only an offence, but also a standing danger to Russia. Catherine was not slow to take advantage of her husband's follies:

She was indeed, the natural, the only possible leader of any revolt against the existing order of things. All eyes inevitably turned to her. Her well-known antagonism to Peter her unique position as the mother and guardian of the future sovereign; her many brilliant and engaging qualities; her courage, her patriotism, her enthusiasm for the honour and glory of her adopted country everything pointed her out as the deliverer of the Russian Fatherland from the German yoke.

Her plans were laid with the coolness and craft of a born intrigante. While the Emperor was absorbed in his favourite pastimes, his consort was busy winning over the Ministers as well as the ablest and boldest among the army officers to her side. Her principal instruments were her friend and companion, the Princess Dashkova, and her paramour, Gregory Orloff. The plot ripened with amazing rapidity. No sooner was Peter out of the long conflict with Russia than he entered into a most uncalled for war with Denmark, and 40,000 Russian troops were immediately assembled in Prussian Pomerania. On June 23, Peter set out for his favourite Chateau of Oranienbaum to superintend the shipment of 8,000 Holstein troops for the seat of war. This was followed by a round of festivities culminating on June 30 in an opera, at which the unsuspecting Peter played in the Court orchestra for the last time.

(Concluded on page 3.)

TELEGRAMS.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

AID FOR THE BOERS IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS.

FEELING IN GERMANY.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE CAPE.

LONDON, MARCH 11.

Herr Richthofen, Foreign Secretary, in announcing to the Prussian Diet that Lord Lansdowne had agreed to send to the reconcentrados in South Africa, free of duty, German consignments of food and clothing, urged a more just mode of criticism and the necessity for consulting British susceptibilities, remembering that the British and Germans were cousins, while the Boers were kinsmen of both.

He quoted a German General who had visited the Boer camps in Ceylon and found everything there first rate.

There were also times, he said, when a nation ought to show human sympathy, and he gave as an instance in this connection the wounding of Lord Methuen who was so well known and esteemed in Berlin.

Mr. Brodrick, in the Commons, said that reinforcements were continually reaching Lord Kitchener, six thousand Yeomanry embark next month and large drafts of Cavalry and Infantry were ready and a full supply of horses maintained. Lord Kitchener, he said, would have all the assistance he asks.

CASUALTIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 12.

The following casualty is reported from South Africa :—Lieutenant W. H. George, 5th Imperial Yeomanry, reported missing near Klerksdrop 25th ultimo was in hospital at Mafeking, 1st March, with slight wound in thigh.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA.

LONDON, MARCH 11.

Prince Henry of Prussia has sailed from New York homeward bound.

THE GRAND NATIONAL.

THE KING'S HORSE SCRATCHED.

The King's horse Ambush II which is the first favorite for the Grand National Steeple Chase has become lame and has been scratched.

AUSTRALIA AND THE JAPANESE.

Mr. Barton, the Federal Premier, speaking in the Australian House of Representatives said no discrimination was being made against Japanese immigrants and no negotiations on the subject were pending as was implied in the recent statement made in the Japanese Diet.

THE ITALIAN CABINET.

The Zanardelli Cabinet again met in the Italian Chamber to-day.

Signor Bianchieri, the new President, was loudly cheered.

A debate on the policy of the Government is proceeding.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

EXTREME MEASURES DEFERRED.

LONDON, MAR 12.

Mr. Wyndham, Chief Secretary for Ireland, was summoned to yesterday's Cabinet Council. It is understood that his recommendation to defer extreme measures in Ireland were adopted.

THE COLONELCY OF THE 19TH HUSSARS.

General French has been appointed Colonel of the 19th Hussars.

CANADA AND IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

NO GENERAL SCHEME APPLICABLE.

Canada, replying to an invitation to attend the Coronation and Colonial Conference to discuss the questions of political relations between the Mother Country and the Colonies, and also regarding imperial defence and the commercial relations with the Empire, says that the question of commercial relations is the only one giving promise of useful discussion. Political relations are extremely satisfactory, and owing to varying conditions no scheme for defence can be applicable to all the Colonies.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SUEZ, MARCH 11.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Maclean left here this morning.

LONDON, MARCH 11.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Gordon arrived here this morning.

The Austrian Lloyd's chartered s. s. Korana from Trieste left Aden for Bombay via Karachi on the morning of the 11th instant, and is due at Bombay on or about the 23rd instant.

The Florio and Rubattino S. N. Company's s. s. Nile left Aden for Bombay on the noon of the 12th instant and is expected to arrive in Bombay on the 18th instant.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS

LONDON, MARCH 11.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet.

Surats quiet.

Good Bhowngzgar 3 23-32.

The Manchester Market has been quiet.

2 3-4 per cent. Consols	94 1-8
2 per cent. Rentes	101 1-2
3 1-2 per cent. Sterling Loan	108
3 1-2 per cent. Rupee Papers	64 1-2
Bar Silver	25 1-8

THE LATE DISASTER TO LORD METHUEN.

THE SUTUATION EXPLAINED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 7.

The "Pioneer's" correspondent, cabling from London yesterday, says :—The disaster to Lord Methuen excites great sympathy, but no wonder among those behind the scenes. A private letter two months old states prophetically :—I look upon it only as a matter of time for Methuen to lose his whole Convoy. His force has been steadily growing weaker for the last three months, and the only strange thing is that he was able to put so many mounted men in the field.

The Yeomanry regiments, nominally of 500, are now about 150 apiece. The men are untrained and horses wretched. The Boers captured much cattle. Cultivation is abundant and mealies are ripening.

Lord Methuen's intelligence was at fault throughout, and only elaborate extension of block house operations will meet the situation in this quarter.

INDIAN VOLUNTEERS FOR THE CORONATION.

REPRESENTATION OF THE CORPS.

PRIVILEGES AND PAY OF THE CONTINGENT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MAR. 12.

It is announced that Government have decided with the approval of the Secretary of State to send a contingent of one hundred volunteers to England in connection with the Coronation, with a staff of six or seven volunteer officers namely, a Lieutenant Colonel of Volunteers as Commandant, one Volunteer Adjutant and four or five other officers junior in rank to the Commandant.

The N. C. O's and men composing the contingent will be selected by the corps concerned, corps over 2,000 strong sending five representatives, over 1,000 strong three representatives, over 500 strong two representatives and under 500 strong one representative.

These representatives may be taken either direct from the corps in India or if convenient from the Indian Volunteers on leave in England.

Deputation allowance will be allowed while on duty in England at the following rates :—Officers one pound daily, other ranks ten shillings and also four rupees daily to all ranks whilst travelling in India or detained for embarkation.

Free passes by rail to the port of embarkation will also be granted according to rank.

Accoutrements and review order uniform will be taken, but not arms and saddlery. The wearing of plain clothes on boardship will be permissible.

A list is also published from which it appears that the Bombay Light Horse send one representative, the Bombay Volunteer Artillery one, Karachi Volunteer Artillery one, Nagpore Volunteer Rifles two, Bangalore Rifle Volunteers three, Bombay Volunteer Rifles two, Berar Volunteer Rifles one, Sind Volunteer Rifles two, Hyderabad Volunteer Rifles two, Baluchistan Volunteers one, Malabar Rifles one, Poona Rifles two, G. I. P. Railway Volunteers two, Bombay, Baroda Railway Volunteers two and, the Midland Railway Volunteers one.

PLAGUE IN INDIA.

No less than 23,715 plague deaths took plac in India last week, 12,544 of them being in the Punjab.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

Lieutenant C. B. Henley, Indian Marine, officiates as assistant Port Officer, Calcutta, vice Huddleston on leave.

The formation at Muttra is sanctioned of a temporary Remount Depot pending the arrival from South Africa of the fifth Dragoons and 9th Lancers.

Colonel Gordon and Captain Corbyn accompany the first remount depot from India to South Africa. Captain Fraser accompanies the second.

Major Triscott R. A. and Lieutenant Druce 1st Bedfordshires are ordered Home.

ESCAPE OF A BOER OFFICER

MADRAS, MARCH 12.

A Boer officer, named Villiers, escaped from Trichinopoly camp on Monday night.

S. P. C. A. AND THE G. I. P. RAILWAY.

THE JUDGMENT.

At the Mazagon Police Court yesterday afternoon, Mr. P. H. Dastur, Second Presidency Magistrate, delivered judgment in the case in which Mr. K. M. Shroff, Secretary and Treasurer of the Bombay Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, charged the G. I. P. Railway with cruelly ill-treating and abusing certain animals laden in one of the waggons. Mr. P. Byrne, Solicitor, appeared for the Society, while Mr. Bowen, Solicitor, represented the Railway Company.

His worship in delivering judgment said the points for decision in this case were: (1) Was the evidence sufficient to prove that the animals were carried in such a manner as to amount to cruelty? (2) Was the G. I. P. R. Company liable criminally for the acts of its servants and agents? (3) Was the Wari Bunder goods yard such a place as was defined in Section 3 (B) of Act XI of 1890 and was it accessible to the public? On the first two points he decided against the Company, but as he thought that some of the points involved were novel in the case and not free from difficulty, it was highly desirable that his judgment should be made contingent on the opinion of the High Court on the following two points. First : Was the Company liable for the acts of the owner of the cattle and the goods clerk at Talegaon under Section 3 (B) of Act XI of 1890, though they might have no knowledge as to how the animals were carried? Second : Was the Wari Bunder goods station a place accessible to the public when the Company's orders were that men on business alone should be admitted there.

The Court reserved judgment pending the orders of the High Court and directed that the accused should appear for judgment whenever called upon to do so.

R. I. M. STEAMER CLIVE.

The Royal Indian Marine steamer Clive is expected to arrive in Bombay on the 24th instant from Rangoon with No. 9 Mountain Battery R.G.A. for Karachi. She will leave here on the 25th instant with the drafts of the 1st West York Regiment and 1st Bedford Regiment in addition to the above Battery.

THE TENNIS CHALLENGE CUP.

In the competition for the Western India Tennis Challenge Cup at the Bombay Gymkana last evening, Mr. F. J. Marshall met Mr. H. Cheetham. Some capital play was witnessed. Mr. Marshall beating his opponent in the first game by 6-2, and in the second by 6-5.

It is stated by the "Siawenpao" that H. E. Hu Yu-fen, one of the Directors of the Northern Railway, on being recently asked by the Empress Dowager what Foreign Power he thought could be most trusted by China, replied, the United State. "The United States," said he, "from the highest to the lowest, cared not for the lands of other peoples ; this being a principle with them when first that country acquired independence." As for Japan, that Power came next. Although she went to war with China in 1894, yet ever since peace had been declared between the two countries Japan had never swerved from her anxiety to prove her friendship to China on the ground of being related to each other at kindred Empires occupying the same Continent. With regard to Great Britain her sole ambition was to trade in peace and therefore she cared not to enter lightly into war with China or with any other nation. The above three Powers could therefore be trusted. As to Russia, however, her words are sweet, but her sole ambition has always been earth-hunger and the encroaching upon of the territories of others. Hence Russia must always be guarded against. The Empress Dowager appeared to approve H. E.'s words.

NOTES FROM PARIS.

THE CAVAIGNAC-RENOULT DUEL.

FRENCH REFORM MEASURES.

THE MI-CAREME CARNIVAL.

PARIS FEB. 20.

The much-talked-of political duel between Mr. Cavaignac, the redoubtable chief of the Nationalists in the Chamber, and M. Rene Renoult, a barrister, and formerly secretary to a Prime Minister, took place on Tuesday morning and proved a most tame and uninteresting affair. The place of the encounter was kept a careful secret. The "terrain" was really a private garden belonging to a relative of M. Cavaignac, and situated at Belleville, on the outskirts of Parish. Shots were fired, but neither of the combatants was injured. Afterwards, M. Cavaignac who, in a former Government, held the office of Minister of War, is a man of the middle age, of claim and pleasant manners, not suggesting a warlike disposition resolutely declined to talk of the affair. "It is against the usage," he said, "in affairs of honour." As to his opponent he had hurried away to a case in the law courts, but his brother was careful to give the impression that it was M. Cavaignac who had choice of weapons and had chosen pistols, "My brother," he said "would have preferred the sword." Pairs has been laughing to-day about the duel, which is the biggest farce imaginable. It is notorious that no one ever gets wounded in a pistol duel. Men who have acted as seconds in these encounters freely admit that it is all blague. The bullet is no deadlier than pith or bread crumbs. But, as one explained, on the eve of the elections it is a good reclame. A fight with swords, however, is a much more serious thing. It has been known to terminate fatally. The last well-known instance was the duel between the Marquis de Mores and Commandant Meyer, in which the Marquis killed his man. The tragic death of De Mores in 1896, in Algeria, has always been connected by French people with an act of Jewish vengeance, though, possibly, it has no better foundation than other stories to the detriment of the despised race. There has been no duel between political personages in France since the "Affaire" hence the interest that attaches to the ridiculous proceeding of this morning.

It is astonishing, the number of propositions just now before the Chamber having for their object some alteration in the law of elections. Each of the bills deposited by honourable deputies aims at the removal of some abuse. There is, for instance, the proposition to restrict or even to give power into local hands to abolish, the election poster, a measure I have already described. Another deputy would allot a certain amount of space on the communal walls to each candidate in which to air his views. But more interesting and more directly important is the proposal which is much discussed, to prolong the life of Parliament from its present span of four years to six years. It has found great favour in the press, but as the writers of the articles are deputies themselves, the commendation may seem to be interested. But it has much to recommend it. Parliamentary procedure is complicated, or perhaps one ought to say, the hundred-and-one questions with which the deputy is called to deal require great study, and four years is none too long to equip him with the knowledge. Then, when he has gained it, he has to go, and, in his fresh appeal, he may be supplanted by some one who has to begin the process of assimilation over again. There are other propositions which, though they have not been formally introduced to the Chamber, have been put forward by responsible men, and have come to confuse the counsels of the wise. One of these suggestions is to elect the Chamber for nine years, the members retiring in thirds every three years. The legislative body would thus have a floating section directly in touch with popular feeling upon a given subject. Other questions evoked in a dying Parliament, have to do with the method of voting. For weeks past a party in the Legislature has waged the adoption of the "scrutin de liste d'arrondissement," instead of the present system known as the "scrutin d'arrondissement." The result of an innovation of that kind would be that the electors would vote on a list of candidates submitted to the whole arrondissement instead of being confined to the candidates of each constituency of 100,000. Where there is not population enough to furnish more than one "circonscription" the alteration in the law would not amount to anything. As that is frequently the case in France, the proposal was denounced as inefficacious. Other reformers; would extent the electoral areas to the whole department and even to specially constituted regions, twenty-one in number, which would comprise the whole of France and Algeria. Of course the idea uppermost in the minds of those who would alter the electoral law, is that by voting on a more or less large list of candidates principles rather than men would be endorsed ; great currents of opinion would be allowed to run freely, and minorities would be used up which now run waste a deputation recently waited on M. Waldeck-Rousseau to urge the establishment by the Government of the "list voting." It should be said that the system as applied to departments is an old one. The Prime Minister did not express hostility to the idea, but naturally he said it was too late to adopt it for this election. The other suggestion of "scrutin de liste regional" involves, as I have said, the splitting up of the country into great electoral divisions, which would also in measure restore the old Provinces, whose influence the forerunners of the Republic sought so uncompromisingly to destroy. The author of this proposal is M. Lasies, who makes the novel suggestion that an elector should be allowed to leave his voting paper in the hands of the Mayor of the Commune during three days preceding the election, in case he has to absent himself. By the new Redistribution Bill the next Chamber will consist of 591 deputies in place of 580.

A scheme is on foot to prolong the Rue de Rennes, that important thoroughfare that traverses the quarter of the Luxembourg, and leads directly from the old aristocratic Boulevard St. Germain to the Gare Montparnasse. At the lower end of the Rue de Rennes, and past the remarkable old Church of St. Germain des Pres, one finds the narrow Rue Bonaparte, which is known to all men because it leads to the Ecole des Beaux Arts. It is proposed to enlarge this street. The first proposition actually had in view the demolition of the famous Institute which houses the five Academies, but apparently other counsels have prevailed and we are to be spared this interesting building with its historical and literary souvenirs. As an alternative proposal, the bifucation of the new street is proposed, one arm Directing itself towards the Pont-Neuf and the other towards the Pont Carrousel. Another plan emanates from the municipal engineers. It is to widen the Rue Bonaparte by deflecting it to the right and to throw a new bridge over the Seine. This idea, however, is supposed by the artists, who, happily for the amenities of Paris, have a large say in these matters. "No," they say, "such a bridge would spoil the view from the Pont des Arts and the Quai du Louvre." Accordingly, there is another proposal to be dealt with. It is to make a practical vehicular bridge of the Pont des Arts, which is at present merely a footbridge, where the Parisian may linger, if he will and smoke his cigarette contemplating the beauty of the prospect when the light is fading from the western sky, or the witching hour when the lamps begin to twinkle in a golden girdle. Paris had need be proud of her river at such a time, with her swift little steamboats speeding along the dark waters and entering and leaving the shadows with an effect that is peculiarly fascinating. Sad to say, the very advocate of the scheme that involves the destruction of the palace that Cardinal Mazarin left funds for, is a member of the Academie Francaise, which has its quarters in this building. It is rank ingratitude. But we may safely leave the champions of the rival schemes to fight the matter out for themselves, and be firmly convinced that they will leave nothing unsaid as to their respective advantages. Meanwhile, the prospect of a great broad street from Montparnasse to the Louvre, with a view of the Louvre all the way, is one that appeals to the imagination. But it would mean the sacrifice of the Institute. One cannot have it all ways.

It has already been announced that there were to be at least two cavalcades for the carnival of Mi-Careme, one on the right bank and the other on the unfashionable left. The left bank, seeing that it is mulcted in the same taxes, feels that it has equal rights in respect of a procession. Within the past few days arrangements have been perfected for the corteg, and on Friday the "queen of the queens" was chosen. She is a blushing young washer woman employed in the laundry department of the well-known Paris stores, the Bon Marche. Her name is Lucie Le Peru, and she is twenty years of age. Her great rival for the suffrages of the various working-class associations of the six arrondissements of the left bank was a young girl seventeen and a half years of age : also a blanchisseuse. Unfortunately, this young woman, whose name is Jeanne Lericolais, was defeated in the final vote by the delegates because of the too great enthusiasm of her friends, who put more papers into the hat, which served as a voting urn, than they were entitled to. There will be four cars. One will represent "The Triumph of the Left Bank." A presentment of the Pantheon will be mounted, and various figures, typical of the Quarter, such as the long-haired and velvet-coated student will appear on a staircase in front of the plaster Pantheon. The second car is especially for the Queen and her attendant ladies and will be hung about with roses. The jardin des Plantes will be symbolized by the third car, and a cage will contain animals utterly unknown to the zoologist and probably recognizable by the "Latins." The band will be installed on the fourth car. This procession will lack the sumptuousness of its rich relation on the other bank, but it will probably be more amusing. The light-hearted students, who will take part in grotesque costumes, may be relied on to provide some impromptu entertainment by the way.

THE FANCY FETE.

LETTER FROM LADY NORTHCOTE.

The following letter, received by the honorary secretaries of the Fancy Fete from Lady Northcote, has been sent to us for publication.

March 11th, 1902.

Dear Mr. Reid,—Unfortunately it is impossible for me to have the opportunity to personally thank all those who have so very kindly helped in the Fancy Fete. It would have been a great pleasure to me to do this. But as this is not feasible, I write to you instead and would ask you to kindly express to all my deep sense of gratitude for the wonderful way in which they have worked to make the Fete a success. A great success it undoubtedly has been, and this has been achieved by the unsparing efforts of those Ladies and Gentlemen who so generously gave their time and their strength to this object.

This Fete will ever be to me a happy memory not only on account of its financial success, but for the many friends it has given me a chance of knowing better and of realizing their kindness and unselfishness.

Again I beg you to offer to all my very grateful thanks and ask them to believe how deeply touched I am by their generous kindness in devoting so much time and enduring so much fatigue in order to make the work a success.

I am, Dear Mr. Reid,
Yours sincerely and gratefully,
(Sd.) ALICE S. NORTHCOTE.

MADAME KOENIG'S BENEFIT.

Madame Koenig writes to inform us that she has received a cheque for Rs. 1,667-15 as. from Mr. Stanley Smith being the balance, after payment of expenses incurred, of proceeds from her recent Benefit, and she desires to convey her warmest thanks to all those whose kind help in various ways has contributed to this splendid result.

To H. E. Lady Northcote, Madame Koenig feels specially indebted for the sympathy and patronage which she granted from the first. To the members of the Ladies' Committee who, with the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Stanley Smith), realized Rs. 1,645 by sale of tickets as well as to those artistic friends who assisted her with the programme of music. Madame Koenig desires to express her hearty thanks.

The great kindness of Mr. W. B. Green, lending his fine room, of Messrs. Rose and Co. for the use of their instruments, and for much other assistance given entirely free of cost, together with the loan of the Philharmonic Society's platform, are all thankfully acknowledged. Those interested will be glad to know that the large amount realized will accomplish the desired object, and Madame Koenig and her daughter will ever gratefully remember the kind assistance rendered by their Bombay friends at this important juncture of the young Lady's career.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

The weekly meeting of the Standing Committee of the Bombay Corporation was held yesterday afternoon in the Municipal Offices, Mr. T. W. Caffe presiding. There were present Mr. James Macdonald, Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, Mr. H. G. Goil, Mr. G. Lund, Mr. Munmohandas Ramjee, Dr. K. E. Dadachanjee, Mr. K. N. Wadia and Mr. Fazulboy Visram.

HORSE TRAINING IN BOMBAY.

The Committee next considered a letter from the Commissioner of Police requesting that the bed of the Storm Water Reservoir at Clerk Road be allowed to be used for training horses.

The Municipal Commissioner in his reports stated:—In my opinion it is highly desirable that during the period that the bed of the Storm Water Reservoir is dry, the training of horses should be limited to that locality, and that while it is so open for use as a training ground, the Commissioner of Police should be at liberty to close the Chowpatti foreshore."

On the motion of Mr. Lund the Committee resolved to forward the letter to the Corporation for consideration and orders with the recommendation that they might comply with the wishes of the Commissioner of Police.

COMPILATION OF MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

The Committee considered a resolution of the Corporation adopting their committee's report on a compilation of Municipal matters prepared by Mr. L. W. Michael, 3rd Assistant Assessor and intimating that the Corporation would be prepared on the recommendation of the Standing Committee to sanction a grant for the purchase of 400 copies of the compilation on the conditions mentioned in the reports.

It was resolved to recommend the Corporation to sanction Rs. 4,000 for the purchase of 400 copies of the compilation.

The Committee after transacting some other business adjourned.

BOMBAY CYCLE AGENCY'S RAFFLE AT THE FANCY FETE.

The draw for the nine prizes offered by the Bombay Cycle Agency took place on Monday evening at the Fancy Fete grounds, and we give below a list of the prizes with the names of their respective winners.

1 Gent's Royal Granville Cycle, Rs. 350, D. B Binning, Bombay.
1 Girl's Wearwell Bicycle, Rs. 250, K. Shaik Ismiel, Madras.
1 Jas. Jones Silver Hunting watch, Rs. 150, Framroz S. Poonawala, Empress Hotel, Cawnpore.
1 do. do. Open face Rs. 110 S. D. Khambatta Bombay.
1 Pair Maxim tyres Rs. 50, H. R. Dunk Bombay.
1 Gold Lady's brooch set with pearl Rs. 40, Dwarkadas Dharamsei, Bombay.
1 Hygenic wire saddle Rs. 25, Goverdhandass G. Tejpal, Bombay
1 Acetylene lamp Rs. 15, Hajee Cassum Ludha, Poona.
1 Cycle Rs. 10 A. L. Coverton Bombay.

News which reaches us from Somaliland states that the Mullah has been raiding anew. He is able to strike at points 1,000 miles apart, as his followers are mounted and can travel 80 miles in a day on camel back. The Somali Levies, under their British officers, are behaving extremely well, and showing much keenness in pursuing the raiders. Some little time ago a party carrying 100 rounds of ammunition per rifle, with food and water for two days, covered 67 miles in the first 24 hours, while the spearmen went on another 14 miles. Even then the force only caught up the enemy's rearguard, but they killed 14 men and recovered 15,000 sheep that were being driven off. The small field force which Colonel Swayne is organising, is to be mainly officered from the East African Protectorates : some Sikh signallers are being obtained from Zomba.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday afternoon in the offices of the Chamber, Graham's Buildings. The chair was occupied by the President, the Hon'ble W. Greaves, and there were present among the members, Mr. F. Ritchie, Superintendent, P. and O. Steam Navigation Company ; Mr. J. M. Dick (Messrs. W. and A. Graham and Co.), Messrs S. Abraham and W. Booker (Messrs E. D. Sassoon and Co.), Mr. J. R. Greaves (Messrs Greaves Cotton and Co.) Mr. C. H. Armstrong, (Messrs Lyon and Co.), Mr. H. E. E. Procter (Messrs Killick, Nixon and Co.), Mr. J. Humphrey (Messrs Latham and Co.) the Hon. Mr. G. M. Moses (Messrs David Sassoon and Co.,) Mr. J. Fairclough (Messrs Ewing and Co.), Mr. J. Begbie (Bank of Bombay), Mr. J. Murdock (Mercantile Bank of India), Mr. Vizuucandas Atmaram (Messrs Narandas Rajaram and Co.), Mr. F. M. Coleman (Messrs Bennet, Coleman and Co.), Mr. G. M. Wilson (Finlay, Muir and Co.) C. F. Meyer (Standard Oil Company, New York) Mr. Jehangir Bomanjee Petit (Messrs Jehangir Bomanjee Petit and Co.) Messrs D. H. J. Rustomjee and B. H. J. Rustomjee (Messrs H. J. Rustomjee and Co.), Mr. A. C. Wright (Messrs. Wallace and Co.) Mr. J. Steven (Chartered Bank of India). Mr. W. W. Petrie (Messrs Raleigh Bros.), Mr. J. W. Brown, (Messrs, C. MacDinald and Co.), Mr. W. Ditchburn (Messrs Shepherd and Co.), Mr. Cuthbert Radcliffe (Messrs Turner Morrison and Co.) Lieut Col H. D. Oliver R. E. (Agent, B. B. & C. I. Railway) Mr. H. F. Wagstaff (South British Fire and Marine Insurance Co.), Mr. D. H. Glade (Messrs. Glade and Co.) Mr. J. Black (Messrs. Forbes, Forbes, and Co.) Mr. Melward Bason (Messrs. Samuel Fitze and Co) and Mr. F. Novel, Paton (Secretary of the Chamber.)

THE REPORT.

NAGDA-BARA-MUTTRA RAILWAY.

The report was taken as read. A summary is given below :—

Since the Committee in its letter to Government about the general disabilities of Bombay in respect of Railway communications found it necessary to refer to the letter from Government on the subject of the Nagda Bara-Muttra Railway, some account of the relevant passages must be given in this place. In the letter the Committee mentioned the disappointment with which members had noted from the "Forecast of Expenditure on Railways for the three years ending 1903-05 according to present proposals" that the only Railways included in that programme and which could in any way mitigate the disabilities of Bombay, were the "Agra-Delhi Chord," the "Amalner-Jalgaon" line and the "Chalisgaon-Dhulia line." The Committee had learned, from the copies of letters of the Government of India that the Imperial Government proposed the construction of the Agra-Delhi Chord as in some manner giving effect to the intention declared by Government in 1897 "that the through connection from Nagda to Muttra and Delhi should be preferred." As had been stated in the letter of the Chamber, dated 29th April 1899, the Committee had been unable to imagine on what grounds the Government so viewed the Agra-Delhi project. For it had always appeared to the Committee to be essential at once to the financial success of the Nagda-Bara-Muttra line, and to the proper development of the trade of the regions to be traversed by it, that the construction should be begun at the "Southern end," so that each mile added might afford to a "new tract" of country direct access to the port which forms its natural outlet. Subsequently accepting the assurance of Government that there was no proposal to substitute the Agra-Delhi Chord for the Nagda-Bara-Muttra extension, the Committee expressed their agreement with Government as to the utility of the former and it was pointed out that, in the letter replied to by Government, disappointment was expressed regarding the circumstance of its having been dropped out of the Revised Programme. They, therefore, intimated their cordial approval of the proposals indicated in the letter under reply, and added that to make those proposals effective, it would be necessary to have running powers not only to Lucknow, but also to Moradabad and Chandausi by way of Aligbar.—While the Chamber was in correspondence with Government in connection with the proposed Nagda-Bara-Muttra Railway, their attention was called to another project—for shortening the lead to Delhi by the construction of a line from Rewari to Phulera.

ARBITRATIONS.

In accordance with the rules passed by the Chamber in 1885, in connection with disputes relating to piece-goods, 54 cases were, in the year 1901, decided by Umpires appointed by the Committee. Instances have occurred in which the Chamber has been asked to arbitrate in disputes between indentors "and home manufacturers," and in order to avoid misunderstanding they have decided that in all such cases it will be necessary for the appellants to place before the Chamber, as "evidence" of submission, a complete writing in such terms as shall leave no possible doubt that it covers the particular dispute submitted. It will be necessary, therefore, in disputes such as those referred to that those Shippers should forward with each consignment a letter agreeing to submit to the Chamber any dispute relating to that particular consignment or should give the Chamber a general undertaking that they will abide by decisions given by the Chamber in disputes submitted to it for arbitration.

PIECE-GOODS.

Complaints were received by the Committee during the year regarding the frequency with which white goods, imported into Bombay, were found to be short of the stamped lengths.

While these questions were under deliberation a letter was received from the Native Piece-goods Merchants' Association inviting a pronouncement upon this very point of maximum percentage of latitude. To this communication the Committee replied that they were consulting the Manchester Chamber on the point and this was done in a letter dated 31st October 1901. In addition to inviting an expression of opinion on the main point above stated, the Committee pointed out that the detection of many short lengths and the warnings telegraphed home had led to the importation of a greatly increased quantity of light bleached goods stamped 1-4 to 1-2 yard less than was contracted for; and that dealers objected to taking delivery of such goods. The Committee recognised that, since all goods except grey cloths pass through many processes, there might be greater difficulty than they knew of in the way of any exact declaration of a percentage applicable to all but they considered it would be possible to work to a maximum percentage of 5, excluding sample-cut pieces. By agreement with the Manchester Chamber new rules were adopted dealing with the length of imported piece-goods.

SHORT-REELED YARNS.

Private information and articles in the public press had for some months made members of the Committee aware that certain spinning mills in India, notably up-country, had adopted a practice of producing short-reeled yarns ; and the matter was officially brought before the Committee. Up to the time of preparing this Report the Committee has received no intimation of any movement in the matter by the Millowners' Association.

INDIAN MERCHANDIST MARKS.

In a letter addressed by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to the Government of India, under date 13th July, 1901, the Committee of that body stated that information had reached them to the effect that since the year 1899, a more lenient administration of the Merchandise Marks Act in some particulars had been adopted in the British Custom Houses, and they asked whether the Government of India had received any communication from the Secretary of State on the subject.

In addressing the Government of India on 10th September, 1901, the Committee stated that having discussed seriatim five questions propounded by Government, they were of opinion that the use of the English language in a trade description or mark should, in the absence of anything obviously to the contrary, be, as at present, regarded as suggesting that the goods to which such use is applied are of British origin. They further added that they would not recommend that the present usage regarding the specific indication of foreign origin be dispensed with and they submitted that since the words "made abroad" would be liable to misconstruction in India, there was no reason for such change in the Act as appeared to be under consideration.

CHINESE IMPORT DUTIES.

In June 1901 the Committee received intelligence of the proposed very great enhancement of the Chinese Imports Duties as a means of financing the Indemnity demanded by the Powers for the disturbances of 1900 and their "sequelæ." After consulting the Bengal Chamber in the matter, the Committee decided to address Government, pointing out that an increase of such duties to ten per cent and wilsom would be sufficient to produce a very substantial decline in the volume of trade and in certain directions to kill it.

The Secretary of State for India, in forwarding the communication from the Foreign Secretary, said: "Having considered in Council the statement of facts contained in that letter, I do not think that any further representation on my part in behalf of the Indian Cotton Mill Industry is practicable. The higher duties which the Chinese Government contemplate imposing will affect the British Cotton Industry as well as the Indian, and special treatment of the latter is obviously not possible."

THE CUSTOMS HOUSE.

During the season 1900-1901 the delays attending the passage of import goods through the Customs House continued to inconvenience importers directly and exporters indirectly, through the consequent congestion in the sheds at the Docks. The Committee have ventured to express the opinion that a very substantial measure of improvement could be accomplished by an increase of the staff—especially in the two departments specified—and by the adoption of a rule that all Customs House servants should work not less than from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There was believed to exist an impression that it was necessary to let members of the appraising staff away early in order that they might inform themselves about current prices of articles ; but the Committee believed it to be the case that after four o'clock was not a good time to obtain the information required and that the end in view would be best attained by such an increase in the staff as would enable each appraizer in rotation to spend a whole day in enquiry.

A BRANCH CUSTOM HOUSE.

The Trustees of the Port had under their consideration during the year, the procedure with regard to the payment of Imperial duty on imported goods. It was represented to them by the Acting Docks Superintendent that, if Imperial duty were received at the Prince's Dock Custom House the gain in time to merchants would amount to nearly two days and sometimes perhaps over that time, while the same period would be gained by the Trustees for clearance of the transits sheds. On the invitation of the Collector of Customs the committee urged that the proposed transfer of some of the Custom House business to the Docks would be of very great advantage to the trade of the Port and offering to depute some of their numbers to discuss the matter with the Collector should be so desired.

COLOURED LABOUR ON MILL STEAMERS.

In the month of October, 1901, it became known that the Senate of the Australian Commonwealth had ratified a resolution by which the House of Representatives had amended the Australian Postal Bill to the effect that no contract for the conveyance of mails to and from that country should in the future be concluded with any Steamship Company that employed coloured men among their crews. The Committee immediately received from a member a strong representation, in which it was pointed out that the effect of this decision would be to throw out of employment large number of British subjects, the majority of whom were drawn from the Bombay Presidency. It was obvious that under the condition that the Australian Senate sought to impose, it might be impossible to conclude mail contracts on the terms hitherto obtained ; and unless the Commonwealth were prepared to make good the difference in cost or unless that policy were to be abandoned under which it had up to that time been sought to make the mail service of the Empire self-supporting, all calasses of the King's subjects inhabiting other parts of his Dominions might have to pay an increased rate for Postal communication. Such prejudice to those communications as must inevitably result would, the Committee submitted, be most retrogressive and greatly to be deplored. They therefore begged H. E. the Governor-in-Council to represent the matter to H. E. the Viceroy to the end that he might make to the Imperial Government such communication as he might in Council consider to be most likely to prevent the Imperial sanction of the amended Bill in question.

PUBLIC WHARF AT ADEN.

This question came before the Committee in 1900 and a representation was addressed to Government in regard to it. The matter, however, remained in abeyance, as it was subsequently found that the Port Trustees of Aden—who had submitted the scheme—were not in a position to provide the requisite Government loan of 8 lakhs of rupees for the carrying on of the work. During the year under review the matter again came up for consideration, and on 18th November, the Chamber was informed by Government that a Commission had been appointed to take evidence and report on the feasibility of the different schemes which had been proposed for the construction of public wharves at Aden and the prospects of their proving remunerative.

CABLE RATES.

It will be remembered that the impediments to the reduction of the present excessive rates for cable communication between Britain and India were set forth in a Memorandum of the Secretary of State, under date 7th November, 1900, the text of which was printed at page 98 of this Chamber's Report for last year. These impediments have so far survived, that the effect that throughout the past twelve months the negociations have, to all outward appearance, been at a standstill and the agitation has to some extent flagged for want of any fresh material for discussion. Sir Edward Sassoon has at the same time lost no occasion of keeping the matter before the country and the official world, and his letter published in the "Times" of the 13th August, 1900, though too long for reproduction here, should be taken as a pendant to the very important pronouncement made in the House by Mr. Austen Chamberlain on that same date.

CURRENCY MATTERS.

The only important Currency matter in which the Committee felt themselves called upon to address Government was that of the practice of maintaining for telegraphic transfers a price which, being prohibitive, was unproductive and rendered inoperative the provisions in respect of such remittances. The only other Currency matter that called for action on the part of the Committee was brought before them by the enquiry of a member who believed that Currency Notes were not received or accepted in payment of Land Taxes at up-country Treasuries. It was evident that such rejection of Currency Notes, if practised, would have the most serious effect on the circulation of paper currency in which the Government of India had by their Circular of October 25th, 1900, shown an earnest interest. During the year the Committee was favoured with a copy of a very interesting pamphlet on Banking in India by the eminent economist, Mr. Henry Dunning Macleod, and also with a copy of an energetic remonstrance addressed by the Bombay Native Stock Broker's Association to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Finance Department, on the subject of the locking up of currency during the busy season.

RED SEA LIGHTS.

As members are aware, the Chamber has been in correspondence with Government on this subject for many years and they are now pleased to say that the Turkish Government and the Light-house Administration have at all events come to an understanding about the erection of four of the much needed light-houses in the Red Sea. In a communication addressed to the Chamber on 20th February 1901 the Bombay Government stated that according to an announcement in the "Levant Herald" of 19th December 1900, the construction of these lights was to have commenced in January 1900, the work being undertaken by the "Administration des Phares." The latest information, however, indicates continued inactivity on the part of Turkey ; and this inactivity has been made the occasion for further representations from certain quarters, in which, however, your Committee has not thought it necessary to join, being assured that the delay arises from no negligence on the part of the British Government. In the early part of January, and while this Report was in preparation, the Committee learned through the newspapers that the Bengal Chamber had received from the Government of India an intimation that the beginning of September, 1901, was the time fixed by the Turkish Government for commencing the work of constructing four new light-houses in the Red Sea.

PERSIAN TRADE.

It will be in the recollection of members that in the latter months of 1900 the Chamber received from H. B. M. Consul in Seistan an interesting communication about the efforts that were being made to establish and develop trade between India and Persia by way of the new Quetta-Seistan route. It will also be remembered that in response to the invitation of that energetic official a number of samples of various goods were got together and sent to him with full information as to price, etc. In the month of December the Committee had the advantage of a conversation with Mr. Joseph Walton, M. P., who was passing through Bombay on his return from a journey from the Caspian southwards through Persia, and who kindly volunteered to impart to the Committee the information he had acquired regar

communication to this Chamber, dated 20th May, 1901, that body in turn desired information as to the manner in which examinations in connection with this scheme were conducted, and by what authority they were controlled.

Further information placed before the Committee showed that the scheme of commercial education which was being worked in Madras was a Government scheme, carried on under the supervision of the Director of Public Instruction; and that the official holding the like appointment in Calcutta was, with the assistance of the Bengal Chamber, arranging for similar examinations being held in Bengal.

PROPOSED INDIAN TRAMWAYS ACT.

By the Indian Railway Companies' Act, 1895, it is provided that Railway Companies registered under the Indian Companies' Act, 1882, may, under certain conditions, pay interest on their paid up share capital out of capital during construction. In the Bill introduced by the Bombay Government on 31st July, 1901, "to apply the provisions of the Indian Railway Companies' Act, 1895, to certain Tramway Companies, it was proposed to take power from the Governor-General in Council to apply the same provisions to Companies formed for the construction of tramways not differing in structure and working from light railways. It believed that legislation to this end would remove what was recognised as a tangible obstacle to the consideration in London of many remunerative light railway projects in India, which for administrative reasons, it was desired to control in this country under the provisions not of the Railways but of the Tramways Act.

On 20th August, 1901, the Chamber were favoured by Government with a copy of this Bill for an expression of opinion as to the proposed provisions; and on 22nd idem the Committee, in thanking Government for having afforded them an opportunity of considering the Bill, stated that it appeared well designed to serve a useful purpose.

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The chairman said:—Before proposing the adoption of the committee's report for 1901, I will, with your permission, make a few remarks on some of the more important matters which have occupied the attention of your committee during the past year.

RAILWAYS.

You will notice in the Report now before you that some opposition has recently come to light in connection with our old friend the proposed Nagda-Bara-Muttra Railway, the construction of which has been advocated by this Chamber for so many years. It has occurred to me that possibly the objection I refer to has emanated from an idea that the members of this Chamber were opposed to the Agra-Delhi chord being constructed. If such an impression does exist, it is quite unfounded as this Chamber will welcome any additions to Railways which are likely to increase or assist the trade of Bombay. The main reason for your committee not urging Government to construct the Agra-Delhi chord has been that they consider it more important to trade to open up fertile tracts of country such as will be penetrated by the Nagda-Bara-Mutra, and they, therefore, have endeavoured to say nothing which will destruct from the force of their representations on behalf of this Railway. I will not attempt to put myself forward as an authority on Railway matters, and discuss in detail the objection raised, but to me it does appear beyond comprehension how notwithstanding the Nagda Bara Muttra scheme having been officially surveyed in 1894-6 and Government early in 1897 having decided to construct this Railway, the Native States could, subsequently, project Railways and Government sanction the same without considering the probability of the Nagda-Bara-Muttra line being constructed at an early date. I may tell you that I am given to understand that not only has the Jeypore Dulla commenced the construction of a Branch Railway from Jeypore southwards to join the proposed Nagda-Bara-Muttra but other States have already constructed Railways with the same intention when Isay that the Nagda Bara Muttra was surveyed in 1894-6, I do not intend to convey to you the impression that it was in these years that the Nagda Bara Muttra scheme was first thought of, as such is not a fact, a preliminary survey of what has resulted in this project having been made in 1889. In the recent correspondence between Government and your Committee respecting the Nagda Bara Muttra scheme, it is stated that the Supreme Government propose to undertake the construction of the Nagda Bara Muttra as funds can be made available without prejudice to the demands for certain other lines which for obvious reasons must have precedence. Government have therefore, admitted the importance of the Nagda Bara Muttra scheme but notwithstanding our having asked we are unable to ascertain what these obvious reasons are. I have heard it hinted that one of them may be the fact of the agreement between Government and the B. B. and C. I. Railway terminating in 1904, but if that is the case surely an arrangement can be come to with the B. B. and C. I. Railway which will obviate the further postponement of the construction of the Nagda Bara Muttra. At the conference with Mr. Robertson held in this room on the 3rd of January I notice that he made a reference to geographical position. This is an argument often used when asking for a preference in Railways, I, therefore would suggest to Government that when considering such a recommendation to carefully compare not only the present facilities of the respective ports, but to see how and to what extent such ports are capable of enlargement, when making such comparisons Government will bear in mind that the drafts of steamers must steadily increase a fact which has already been admitted by the management of the Suez Canal who have decided to deepen their canal to 32 feet.

PORT JETTIES.

From enquiries made respecting the leading Ports in India, I find that in Calcutta the maximum draft at their Jetties is about 27 feet, whilst at times vessels drawing lover 24 feet have to lighton at Diamond Harbour, as to Karachi in the fine season steamers up to 28 feet draft can be admitte dinto the Harbour, but during the monson the entrance does not permit of steamers of more than 25 feet draft entering the Port. Now, gentlemen, compare the the Port of Bombay with those Ports. Here we have one of the finest natural Harbours in the world where vessels drawing fully 38 feet of water can enter at any hour of the day or in any weather and anchor in perfect safety. As to our Docks, I may tell you that the Port Trustees are prepared whenever trade demands it to make a new Dock which is designed for steamers of upto 32 feet drafts. I of course, admit that engineering skill and money can overcome most difficulties, but with such natural advantages as the Port of Bombay enjoys, it is needless to say that it must be economy to attract trade and develope such a Harbour. In March 1897, when it was decided by Government that the through connections from Nagda to Muttra and Delhi was to be preferred, one of the reasons given for the conference deciding thus was that the large Railway schemes then on hand would benefit Bengal, Madras, Assam and Burmah therefore a scheme which would assist Bombay had a strong claim. Yet in 1902, not only are we still waiting for the construction of the Nagda Bara to be commenced, but if you will refer to some figures given by Mr. Armstrong at the conference with Mr. Robertson you will see that the percentage proportions in which the various Ports stand to benefit by Railways now under construction are:—Bombay 2-41 per cent., Calcutta 68-70 per cent., Karachi 6-93 per cent., Madras 10-65, per cent., Burma 11-3 per cent. In the 174 lakhs sanctioned in December last for capital expenditure on the construction of new Railways during the coming financial year I regret that I cannot find work from which the Port of Bombay will benefit. When discussing the Budget for 1902, Sir Edward Law explained his intention as regards receiving capital for Railway construction, one of his resources for this purpose is a proportion of Surplus Revenue. Now with the prospect which is practically assured of Government having an important surplus in Revenue for the financial year closing this month, we earnestly appeal to H. E. the Viceroy who has wisely declared that he will not be deterred from following a standfast policy of Railway construction in this country to recognise Bombay's rights as the first port in India to a greater share in the Government grants made for Railway construction than what it has had for several years past and thus fulfil the repeated promises of Government to the effect that the construction of the Nagda-Bara Muttra Railway will be undertaken when funds can be made available. Your committee in July last addressed Government inviting their attention to the difficulties experienced by those importing Railings to Bombay from the North-West owing to the failure or refusal of the Railways in that District to supply wagons for such purpose. One can readily imagine that with a large demand for wagon the Railway will be inclined to grant a preference to the merchant who will give the longest lead on the Railway on which the traffic originates, but this is quite contrary to the provisions of the Railway Act of 1890 and only a strong protest against such will assure Bombay merchants getting their rights. The committee are as yet unaware if their recommendations in this matter have been given effect to, therefore, I would ask members of this Chamber to at once inform the committee of such impediments to their trade as we must see that Bombay gets fair play.

INSOLVENCY COURT.

In recent correspondence with the Official Assignee we have learnt with pleasure that several improvements have lately been introduced respecting the procedure in his office in the matter of Insolvent Estates. The more important of these have reference to the matter of the proof of debts by creditors and prompt declarations of dividends. Your committee have made several suggestions to the Official Assignee for the more efficient procedure in his office, but notwithstanding this official having every desire to perfect such procedure it is unfortunately beyond his power to accede to our recommendations. I believe it is generally admitted that the present Insolvency Act is not satisfactory, and such is not to be wondered at, seeing that this act was passed in 1843 during which interval the trade of India has entirely changed. It is well known to us all that the Insolvency Court is in many instances resorted to by dishonest traders who conceal their assets live out their creditors by various means, pay no composition and eventually get their discharge. In England it is the duty of the Official Receiver to enquire into all cases of Bankruptcy and when he finds wrong doings on the part of the Bankrupt such as fraud action is taken by the Public Prosecutor against the Bankrupt. In this country it is the creditor's duty to oppose the discharge or take action against the Insolvent and I believe that those who have undertaken such action have in most cases entailed heavy expenses besides loss of much valuable time and in the end get no satisfaction. One of the weak points in the present Insolvency Act is that there is nothing to prevent the Trader from assigning his properties or goods immediately prior to him filing his schedule and the want of such is I believe in many instances responsible for so few Insolvent Estates having any assets. I believe that an amendment to this Act has already been under consideration, but difficulties have arisen and nothing has been done. I however hope that the day is not far distant when Government will take in hand the revision of this Act.

CABLE MESSAGES AND SEA LIGHTS.

The reduction in the charge for cable messages to Europe which came into force this month has been welcomed by the whole community having relations with the West. There is no doubt that we owe a debt of gratitude to H. E. the Viceroy for the determined manner in which he took up this question and we are also deeply indebted to Sir Edward Sassoon for the persistent manner in which he repeatedly pressed our claims for a reduction in rates on the authorities in England. Sir Edward spared neither time nor inconvenience to himself in supporting our claim and I am sure that the success of our appeals for reduced rates is in a great measure due to him. In looking through the records of this Chamber I find that repeated applications have been made to Government for additional Lights in the Red Sea so I am sure you were all gratified to learn from the newspapers that 4 new lights in the Red Sea are now in course of construction. The Bombay Government recently recommended that the light which is now about to be replaced at Kennery Island with one of greater power should be erected at Balfe Point Perim, but I regret to say our latest advices are that the Board of Trade refuse to bear any part of the cost of the proposed change, so the idea may fall through. Your committee however have on the strength of a strong representation made to them by a number of steamship agents again addressed Government urging the importance of having a light at Balfe Point, and it is to be hoped the proposal of the Bombay Government will be carried out.

COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

It will no doubt be of interest to most of you gentlemen to know that orders have been issued by Government for the Principal of the Elphinstone High School to hold or rather to supervise examinations in Commercial Education. The examination papers are set by the London Chamber of Commerce, which are sent to the examiner here and he transmits to the London Chamber the answers of the candidates and in due course the names of those who pass the examination are sent to Bombay and published in the "Government Gazette." Should any of you wish to see what the questions are, which have been put to the candidates in previous examinations you can do so by applying to the Secretary of this Chamber. I may tell you that within the past few weeks your committee have been addressed by the Director of Public Instruction and asked to secure the help and co-operation of the members of this Chamber in connection with this scheme of education and your committee have replied practically promising your support and it has been decided to institute a register in the office of this chamber in which will be kept the names, caste, age and addresses of the successful candidates and this register will be open to all members. What we have in view is that when any member requires a junior clerk he will refer to this register and select a young man. The fact of the youths having past his examination is a guarantee of them having been educated up to a standard which in London is considered sufficient to qualify for junior clerkship in marchants offices. Speaking from my own experience I have found that when I wanted a youth of a different caste to that of the majority of the clerk in a particular department it has been most difficult to find him and when I have advertised in the papers for a clerk, applications of a kind have been plentiful, but I have found it most difficult to ascertain the qualifications of the candidates. Now, with the register I have spoken of one can pick out the caste required and at the same time get a youth with a guarantee that he has been educated up to a standard which ought to enable him to become a good clerk. I think gentlemen that this scheme deserves the support of the mercantile community of Bombay and I trust you will give it encouragement.

THE REPORT.

I will now invite your attention to the Report which has been so ably drawn up by our Secretary. You will see that he has given a detailed and comprehensive rescume on all the more important subjects which have been before the committee during the past year. You will also notice that he has given a reference where the same subjects have been before previous committees and so made the Report more interesting and valuable than it otherwise would have been; all this has of course entailed great labour on him and is perhaps responsible for our meeting being a little later in the year than usual, but I am sure we all appreciate his efforts to make the report as perfect as possible. When speaking of the annual Report I will take the opportunity of telling you that your committee on the recommendation of the Secretary have sanctioned the employment of a special clerk to draw out an index of the various subjects dealt with in the annual Reports published by this Chamber since its establishment in 1836. Those who have had to trace any particular matter in the records of this Chamber must have found the indexing somewhat faulty, which is not to be wondered at when one considers the number of different men that have had a hand in the framing of these reports. We, however, are confident that an index drawn up under the supervision of our Secretary will add materially to the usefulness of the history of the trade of Bombay which is contained in our annual reports. As to our finances, thanks to the large shipments of cotton we are able to show a profit on our working expenses of Rs. 9,105-6-0 which, nedless to say, is most satisfactory.

He moved:—"That the report of the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the year 1901, which has been circulated, be adopted and printed for general information, together with the documents therein referred to."

MR. C. H. ARMSTRONG.

Mr. C. H. Armstrong said:—It falls to my lot as Deputy Chairman to second the proposal that has just been placed before you by the Hon. Mr. Greaves, and I do so with great pleasure, because I feel that the year's record is an exceptionally good one. We may not, perhaps, excepting as regards Railways have dealt with many matters of great importance, but the subjects that have come before us have been very numerous and many of them of great local interest. Our Chairman has dealt as fully with our Railway problem that I will only briefly allude to it, but I may say that was a great pleasure to your Committee to meet Mr. Robertson, the Special Commissioner, appointed by the India Office to enquire into the administration and working of Indian Railways, and I trust that good will come of the interview. Facts and figures, when plainly stated, often carry great weight, and I believe many, after hearing the percentages I put forward, were amazed that so little is now being done by the Government of India in railway construction and extension for the benefit of this port, undoubtedly the fine harbour in India, and one which affords all possible facilities.

COMMUNICATION WITH DELHI.

When addressing Mr. Robertson, I remarked that we admitted a feeling of great disapointment as regards the progress or at least the want of it that has lately been made in schemes in which we are interested, and such undoubtedly was the case at that time, but there are now signs, but only slight ones I admit, that give us some hope that the project we have so earnestly advocated for many years of connection with Dthi, via Nagda and Baran, will, ere long, be again taken into consideration, and I trust this time with a favourable and rapid result. The position of the Government of India as regards this line is most difficult to follow, for after placing it first or at any rate giving it preference in their list a few years ago, it has now no place in their three years' programme which was lately issued. Now, gentlemen, what are the advantages of this line to us? In the first place, it will open up for Bombay a new country; in the second place, it will attract by connecting lines traffic from adjacent districts to Bombay the natural outlet and in the third place, it will give us a short run to Delhi. Now, gentlemen, we are glad at all times to consider the financial position of Government as regards existing main lines, but as merchants we cannot allow other interests—and there appear to be such interests—to stand for ever in the way of a project, which, we feel, will materially benefit our trade in both exports and imports, and for this reason we must continue to press to a successful issue the scheme we have urged for so long, and of which the Government of India have approved. I feel sure that European merchants in Bombay are fully alive to the advisability of supplies from up-country being attracted to this port, and I trust our native friends, who are interested mainly in imports, are equally alive to the necessity of keeping well in touch with up-country markets. The policy, if I may so call it, of exclusion which has for some years been encouraged by native dealers in Bombay, must end sooner or later in disappointment, and there is much, I think, now to show that our native import dealers have not made in the past few years as much headway in up-country markets as traders in other Indian ports. I commend this matter to the native dealers of Bombay, and can assure them that any representations that they may make to this Chamber as regards railway rates and facilities for their trade will always receive our most careful consideration and, if possible, support.

PIECE-GOODS DISPUTES.

During the past year your Committee have had to deal with a large number of disputes caused by the careless stamping at home of the lengths of piece-goods, and after much consideration and after consultation with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, your Committee framed a set of rules to comp into force on the 1st July, which, they understood, would meet with acceptance, for there can be no doubt that it is for the good of our trade that cloths should be what they are represented to be, and any laxity in this respect is liable to damage the reputation of Bombay goods in up-country markets. But since the report was issued a letter has been received from the Manchester Chamber, suggesting certain fresh proposals which appear to me eminently fair and reasonable, and I have no doubt that one of the first acts of the new Committee will be to call together the sub-committee under which our late circular was issued, in order that it may be withdrawn and a new one substituted on the lines now proposed by our friends in Manchester, who, of course, can best say what can be done and what is fair for all parties. I share the pleasure our Chairman has expressed in the deduction in the cost of telegrams to Europe, and I quite agree that our thanks are due to all not only in this country, but in Parliament and elsewhere, who have helped in the settlement of this matter.

SHORT REELING GREY YARNS.

A subject which is briefly alluded to in the report is the short reeling of grey yarns by mills in India, notably up-country. Your Committee have considered this matter on several occasions, but as mentioned in the report they feel that in the first instance it is a subject which should be taken up by the Millowners Association. Nothing, however, has apparently been done by this body as yet, and as many of us are importers of grey yarns from Lancashire and as many mills in India are now spinning finer counts than they did and are, therefore, in competition with imported yarns it behoves the Committee of this Chamber to watch the matter carefully in the interests of the trade of its members. And Government will, no donbt, keep themselves fully informed of what is going on in the interests of the handloom weaver who is in many cases receiving a han of only about 730 yards instead of the regulation 840 as laid down in the Act. Now gentlemen, this is a matter in which I have taken a good deal of interest, and I will not disguise from you that there are difficulties in the way of its adjustment. We all of us work under the Merchandise Marks Act, and we should all be subject to the same conditions, but as a matter of fact an importer receives one treatment and a local spinner another, which in effect is really none at all. I will make my meaning quite clear. If an importer endeavours to pass short reeled yarn from England through an Indian Custom House, he is—provided the authorities have warning of the shipment—immediately stopped by the Collector of Customs under, I believe the Sea Customs Act. The yarn is then tested, and, if found contrary to the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act, is confiscated, or a fine is imposed and the bales have to be reshipped. This is what I call summary judgment, and such prompt action is not only advisable, but necessary in the interests of trade generally but a local spinner is not subject to any such test. He may reel his yarn short, and no official will or can take action on the same lines. It is, of course, open to anyone to take a case—if, for instance, it is an up-country mill—into a Mofussil Court, but apart from the very obvious fact that it is not the duty of the individual to enforce the law for the benefit of the community at large, this course is difficult to follow because of the delay which attends such procedure, and as short reling is an offence against the law of the land it hould be promptly dealt with. In support of the oregoing statement, I may mention that it cost a leading firm in India only the other day over Rs. 25,000 and two years' time to get judgment in a Court in Northern India on a comparatively simple matter, viz., their claim to a number of piece-goods. The remedy, to my mind, for short reeling should not be difficult, but as I understand that the Government of Bombay are fully alive to the situation, and as it is possible that the ventilation of this question may already have done some good, though I rather fear not very much, I will not press the matter further just now beyond expressing the hope that Government will not on any account permit a new departure from the principles of the Merchandise Marks Act, and that mills in this country, particularly in and around this Presidency, will profit by what has happened and will spin their yarns full length in future. The rapid clearing of goods through the Custom House is a subject your Committee have taken much interest in, in order to facilitate the delivery of goods from the Docks, and the incoming Committee will, no doubt, shortly be receiving a reply from the Collector of Customs, which I trust and feel sure, will be satisfactory to a letter which the outgoing Committee addressed to him a short time ago. With these few remarks, gentlemen, I beg to second the proposal for the adoption of the report.

MR. H. C. WRIGHT

In supporting the motion Mr. H. C. Wright said: A large portion of the report is devoted to railway matters, especially the proposed Nagda-Bara-Muttra Railway, which we all regret to see has not yet been commenced. I fail to see why Government should not tell us plainly what their reasons are for placing such an important scheme in the back ground. The manner in which the Committee has continued to press this important scheme deserves our thanks, and I trust that when our Chairman meets us next year he will be able to report that some real progress has been made. One of the most important matters referred to in the report, and dealt with by our Chairman, is the question of the present Insolvency Act. This act which was passed over 50 years ago is so unsatisfactory that I believe its revision would be an almost hopeless task and nothing short of an entirely new act would be of much use. There are many improvements which might be introduced in a new act—for instance: (1) the Official Assignee might be invested with powers to examine insolvents; (2) the duties of an insolvent might be more clearly defined; and (3) the adjudication of insolvents might be possible in the petition by a creditor that an act of bankruptcy has been committed, the way that debtors evade their liabilities and make away with their assets is nothing short of a scandal and I hope the matter will receive the early attention of Government and that before long we shall have a new and better insolvency act. The thanks of members are due to the Official Assignee who has done as much as possibly can to simplify the proceedings in his office. It is most satisfactory to deal with an official who does his best to settle matters brought before him in a prompt and business like manner.

SHORT REELING.

The Deputy Chairman has made some interesting remarks on the question of the short reeling of country made yarn. There is, I think, little doubt that the practice is in distinct contravention of the Merchandise Marks Act. How far the native hand loom weaver is deceived in a question on which people hold different opinions and I do not think it is certain that he does not know what length of yarn he is buying. Personally, I think that seeing that the weaver is in touch of an expert as the dealer who sells to him it is most unlikely that the deception can be carried on. The law seems clear, and seeing that the Mill-owners' Association seems disinclined to take the matter up and that no specific instance has been brought before the Chamber showing that the present law cannot cope with the matter, I think our Committee has done wisely in declining, at all events for the present, to approach Government in the matter. It is not necessary that individual should have the trouble and incur the odium of prosecuting offenders for the District Magistrate is empowered to take action, and in one instance, of which I have personal knowledge, the Collector, who was also the District Magistrate, was prepared to take action against some up-country mills if they had not promised to stop short reeling. (Applause.)

DISCUSSION.

In supporting the resolution Mr. F. C. MacRae said: Mr. Chairman, with reference to the remarks of the last two speakers on the subject of the short reeling Indian yarns, I am glad to hear that the District Magistrate has interposed, and has obtained from some mills a promise to stop this systematic short reeling, unless a check of this kind is introduced the mills will continue to sell seventeens and eighteens accounts as twentees, and bundle them as twentees, and make them up to resemble twentees. It is clearly a fraudulent description, and so places the Trade of this city on a very unsatisfactory basis, both for consumers and for those mills who wish to observe the requirements of the Act. If it be contended that the native hand loom weaver is neither deceived nor defrauded then why is it necessary to bundle these seventeen and eighteen accounts in the form of twentees? Where is it necessary unless it is to deceive somebody I am also not aware that we find natives paying the prices of twenties for these goods. However, I am sorry to hear that the mill owners Association has not seen their way so far to take the matter up. Perhaps it is more a matter for this Chamber to deal with, and that it would be dealt with more quickly by the Chamber of Commerce. I hope it will not lose sight of the matter.

Mr. J. R. Greaves said I hear some allusion of previous speakers to want of action by the mill owner's association with respect to short reeling. Judging from what Mr. Wright says no distinct case has yet been present for action. In the absence of such distinct case it is difficult to follow the details which require to be investigated. I don't think that Mill-owners themselves have any intention to disregard the necessity of taking any action that may be required.

Mr. Armstrong said an instance had been brought before the Chamber of short reeling.

Mr. J. R. Greaves: Have these been sent on to the Mill-owner's Association.

Mr. Armstrong: No.

Mr. Greaves: Then why not? Why did the Chamber address the Mill-owners in one point and not in another?

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

THE HON'BLE MR. MOSES.

The Hon'ble Mr. Moses in proposing a vote of thanks said:—

Gentlemen, we meet once more to-day to receive the report of the past year of the Committee of this Chamber which discloses a vast amount of solid work done and the great attention and care bestowed by them upon every conceivable subject of commercial interest and importance that come up before them for consideration for which we are very grateful. Gentlemen, as we meet at this Chamber once a year to ventilate our views on commercial matters; I shall be wanting in my duty, if I did not seize this opportunity of making some observations upon subjects of vital importance to this Presidency, nay to all India, in which I am sure every merchant here is interested. It is now over nine years since the mints were closed to the free coinage of silver and the currency legislation has had a fair trial. There is no denying of the fact as to the success of Government in establishing a stable currency for India; after a stubborn resistance it has yielded to the force of the Imperial Government. But let us see at what cost it has been achieved? Our Mill Industry in which no less than 15 million sterling is invested, which has been flourishing before the closing of the mints, has since been gradually decaying until it has now reached the brink of Bankruptcy. No less than 14 mills are about to be liquidated and some of them, brand new ones, were knocked down to hammer, realizing only a third of their original cost. What has brought about such a deplorable state of affairs? I maintain it is the closing of the mints against the free coinage of silver which has necessarily diminished the demand for the white metal, and the prices have been steadily declining, with the result that our Exchanges with the Far East have been following in the wake of silver on the lower basis, thus rendering our trade with that country unprofitable. This has been going on year by year, until the trade is now almost paralised. The mills are obliged to export to China what they produce, whether on their own account or by selling to the China Merchants, but the results to all concerned have been all the same, unremunerative, as they were not able to obtain sufficiently high Dollar prices from John Chinaman commensurate with the fall in Exchange. When our twist reaches China there it is met with keen competition by the Chinese and the Japanese mills. I don't say that our competitors have shared a better fate, but that is a poor consolation for us. It would be interesting to enquire as to who has benefitted by the currency legislation and who has suffered. As far as I can judge, the the Government save about five millions sterling annually and the Lancashire people derive a partial benefit by the favourable realization of their imported goods. Against that it is estimated that the taxpayers of India and its agriculturists suffer to the tune of about twenty million sterling per annum. The cultivators of cotton and seeds of this Presidency are groaning under the oppression, but could find no sympathisers. And in the same manner the Tea, Silk and Indigo Planters on the other side of India grumble that their trade is being ruined by the unfavourable artificial exchange when exporting their goods, but without finding redress; and as I explained before over Mill Industry is in a very deplorable state just now. The Secretary of State on comparing the taxation of England and India said the other day in Parliament "That the taxation in India has remained stationary; there has been no new taxes imposed since he has been in office." That may be perfectly true, but is His Lordship aware that since the closing of the mints the taxpayers and the agriculturists pay about 30s. indirect taxation. Instead of 1s. the intrinsic metallic value of a Rupee it is now artificially fixed at 1s4. Those that are sceptistical on the subject of the indirect taxation let me assure them that I am not singular in this opinion. The Government of India had been contemplating about anartificial rupee since 1875 and sought the support of the then Home Government on the question. On referring the matter to the Lord Commissioner of the Treasury they expressed their opinion on the subject in a letter to the Secretary of State for India, dated the 24th Nov. 1879; with your permission, I will quote a small portion of that letter. "The Government of India propose that at the free coinage of silver be restricted so that the Rupee shall no longer remain as at present, simply a piece of silver of a given weight and fineness but shall in addition to these qualities bear a fixed relative value to the English sovereign. The proposal appears open to these objections, a token currency which has long been recognised by all civilised nations. It appears that the Government of India in making the present proposal lay themselves open to the same criticisms as are made upon Governments which have depreciated their currencies. In general the object of such Government has been to diminish the amount they have to pay to their creditors. In the present case, the object of the Indian Government appears to be to increase the amount they have to receive from their taxpayers. If the present level of exchange be due to the depreciation of silver, the Government scheme may relieve the Indian Government and others who desire to remit money to England but this relief will be given at the espense of the Indian taxpayer and with the effect of increasing every debt on fixed payment in India." I am sure the taxes in England have not been increased to the extent which the taxpayers in India subjected to by the operations of the currency legislation, I therefore ask would not the taxpayer prefer to pay a slightly increased tax here and there to meet the deficit of the Indian exchequer of five millions sterling per annum, and have an open mint and an unhampered trade, to the present state of affairs of uncertainty and embarrassment? Until this is done I fear impoverishment of India will continue and I sincerely trust that Government will come to the rescue before they find her in extremes. Gentlemen, you are aware that simultaneously with the closing of the mints an excise duty was imposed on our manufactured goods presumably as a protection for the Manchester goods; but in reality our goods do not compete with theirs, as we produce coarse goods and they, of finer qualities. I therefore take it that this tax goes to augment the revenue of Government but with the present flourishing state of Indian finances I am sure they could well afford to abolish it. I might mention that this tax comes to about 1-2 a lac of Rupees on an average per annum on a weaving mill having about 1000 looms, which is no small burden to bear in these days of competition. It will afford a great relief to our struggling Industry if this tax is abolished. As one of the result of Currency legislation, it was sanguinely expected that owing to the fixity of Exchange capital from Europe would be attracted to India for investment. But we have failed to see such a consumation. Mr. David Yule however holds a novel notion on this subject. In a recent speech he said that. I have always held that the step towards the adoption of gold standard for India by closing the mints had the effect of sending capital out of the country than bringing it in. Because the holder of a Rupee was able to buy 1s. 4d. worth of European securities instead of 10s. worth while the European Investor was called upon to pay 4s. for what before he could have bought at 10s. But my own impression is that the true cause of reluctance on the part of European investors to send out their money to India's, that they have been watching carefully the effect of the closing of the mints upon the trade of India and they discovered from the Annual balance sheets of our joint stock companies the results of their working being far from satisfactory, they naturally, shrink from venturing to send out funds to India for investment. Such being the case in these days of Commission, I would humbly suggest that H. E. the Viceroy may be graciously pleased to appoint one to enquire into the economic condition of India generally and particularly as regards the effect of the currency legislation on the prosperity of the industrial and agricultural classes of this great Empire; and to suggest remedies for their amelioration. Gentlemen, I hope you will pardon this digression, but trust that the importance of the subject may be considered as sufficient justification. I have now much pleasure in proposing that the best thanks of the Chamber meeting be tendered to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman the out going committee and the Secretary for their able conduct of the affairs of the Chamber during the past year.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. F. C. MacRae seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. J. Murdoch, and seconded by Mr. J. Fairclough:—That the following gentlemen be elected members of the Committee of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the year 1903:—Messrs. H. Blascheck, J. M. Dick, A. M. Monteath, W. W. Petrie, H. E. E. Procter, Esq. Lt.-Col. H. D. Olivier, R. E. J. Stiven, Esq.

Mr. J M Dick afterwards proposed and Mr H E E Procter seconded, "That the following rates of tonnage hitherto shown upon the old scale and which are hereby declared obsolete and void, be entirely deleted from the Tonnage scale:—Bark in Bags 16 cwt., Coffee in bags or Frazils 12 cwt, Copra in Robbins 8 cwt., Gram in Bags 15 cwt, Jawari in Bags 16 cwt, Lang in Bags 16 cwt, Mawra Flowers 16 cwt, Mussor in Bags 16 cwt, Teel or Gingelly seeds 14 cwt, Rape seed 14 cwt, Mustard seed 14 cwt, Rice in Bags 16 cwt, Saltpetre 16 cwt, Wheat 16 cwt.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. C. Radcliffe, and seconded by Mr. F. Ritchie:—"That the following addition be made to the Tonnage scale:—Cylindrical packages, rolls, etc. 40 cubic feet, and that the following foot note be appended:—On and after 1st April 1903, the following formula shall be recognised for the calculation of the cubical contents of Cylinderical packages: namely that the Square of the diameter be multiplied into the length and one-fifth deducted from the product.

Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. H. C. Wright;—"That Messrs Ferguson and Irvine be re-elected auditors of the Chamber's Accounts for the year 1902 on the remuneration hitherto paid to them."

The Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman proposed by Mr. C. H. Armstrong.

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We believe the shortest patronymic in the world is that of "O", the name of a Belgian family descended from the Marquis of O. Of him it was written:—

"Though my family's naught
I'd have you to know
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Said the Marquis of O.

In a barber's window not far from here we constantly see the sign:—"Hair cut and whiskers trimmed threepence; children twopence."

A story is being told of a nervous bridegroom, who, having lately stood as godfather, got so hopelessly mixed in his mind between the baptismal and marriage service that when asked "wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife?" replied to the consternation of his fiancee, "I renounce them all!"

Husband's excuse to wife for arriving Home at 2 o'clock in the morning.

"Well, do you know the time?" inquired Mrs. Robinson, sternly, as her husband returned from his club at 2 o'clock in the morning.

"Yes, darling," admitted Robinson, "but you don't know what kept me so late. Some how an argument started amongst the Married members as to which of them had the cleverest and prettiest wife, of course each stood up for his own wife, and the argument migh have gone on for a week, had not it been proposed tt put the question to a vote of the single memberso This was done and would you believe it, darling, every one of them voted for you?"

The late Earl Fitzwilliam had only one senior in point of age in the House of Lords, and this was Lord Gwydyr, who is ninety-two this year. In point of actual service, however, Lord Templemore, who first took his seat in 1842, is the "Father" of the House, the Earl of Leicester making his entrance two years later, and Lord Nelson, who succeeded to the earldom at the age of twelve, taking his seat for the first time in 1845. The new Earl, when Viscount Milton, M. P., had the not unusual experience of reading his own obituary. This he did whilst waiting for a train at a country station in Yorkshire some years ago. The report had gained currency that his lordship had sustained a fatal accident in the hunting-field, and on purchasing an evening paper the hon. member was surprised to find the report in cold print.

It is not inappropriate to recall to-day, when the remains of Sir Neville Chamberlain will be borne with military honours to the grave, the high estimate in which the dead General was held by his contemporary officers fifty years ago. "In Chamberlain and John Nicholson I rest my main hope," said Henry Lawrence, in view of the importance of an early success at Delhi John Lawrence "knew no one who so commanded; the esteem of his brother-officers"; Hodson, of Hodson's Horse, wrote that his presence would be worth a thousand men; and Lord Roberts esteemed it the most wonderful piece of good fortune to be employed as staff officer to such a distinguished soldier as Neville Chamberlain. General John Reed Becher—an Indian comrade—wrote a poem in the dead soldier's praise. Here is one stanza:

Lofty, compassionate, and just,
Knight without fear, and without stain,
A foe to dread, a friend to trust,
Ride forth Sir Neville Chamberlain.

On his "last ride" to-day the Commander-in-Chief and other distinguished officers will be in attendance.

The newly-appointed Dean of Bangor is brother to the Dean of St. Asaph. The fact of two brothers being at the same time Deans in contiguous dioceses is said to be unique in church history. A curious case of somewhat the same kind comes from South Africa. The Most Rev. Dr. Gaughran, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Kimberley, is succeeded as Bishop by his brother, the Rev. Father Gaughran, Superior of the Oblates at Leith. The late Bishop was a native of Dublin, and when he died was given a military funeral.

Memories of "98 are recalled by the death in her ninety-sixth year of the venerable mother of Mr. Justice Andrews. She was a daughter of Dr. Drennan, the poet of the revolutionary movement, who was tried for high treason, but acquitted through the eloquent defence of his friend Grattan. The most popular of Drennan's topical ballads was "The Wake of William Orr," which immortalised a judicially-murdered patriot. Dr. Drennan died in 1820 among the "black-hearted Orangemen" of uncongrnial Belfast, but he was so universally beloved that he was borne to his grave by six Protestants and six Roman Catholics.

Captain Owen Wheeler in the "Navy and Army" gives, on the authority of a friend, a personal reminiscence of Lord Dufferin which has a pathetic attractiveness at the moment. As a boy, Captain Wheeler's friend had been sent to Lord Dufferin with a message which required a reply, and was shown into a room to await the great man's convenience. After a little while Lord Dufferin came in and said, "I am afraid, my boy, I shall have to keep you some little time, so I have brought you a book to read." Captain Wheeler wonders, not unnaturally, how many great men would have exhibited thoughtfulness of tha rare and delicate sort.

This is from the "Law Times": "It is rumoured in legal circles that Mr. Justice Grantham will shortly leave the Bench and re-enter the political arena. Plainness of speech is so lamentable absent from most of our political addresses, and the modern politician is so fond of beating about the bush with meaningless and nebulous platitudes, that the change would be welcome. Anyone who can in one month from the Bench warn the public 'never to take a cheque from a bookmaker,' tell farmers 'that they are wholly ignorant of their own business, and incur the wrath of Lady Harberton by telling men to box their wives ears, could not fail to stir up the sluggish political waters."

ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF COUNTRY LIQUOR.

Mr. Emanuel Addition-l District Magistrate of Ahmedabad, in December last, made a reference to the High Court in the case of Imperator against Lilajee Ghemajee. The reference was considered at the High Court on Thursday before the Hon. Mr. Justice Candy and the Hon. Mr. Justice Fulton.

Mr Emanuel, in his references, said the accused, a Koli of Kujad, taluka Dascroi, was found guilty of secreting in a tin in the fl or of his house 35 seers, 13 drams of liquor imported from Hilol in Baroda, and sentenced under section 46 of the Bombay Abkari Act 5 of 1878. The accused admitted the offence, which was proved by two Abkari policemen. Besides the liquor, two empty bottles smelling of liquor were found. The second class magistrate, Dascrol, Mr. Venilal Trimbakial, sentenced the accused to pay a fine of Rs. 15 or in default to suffer fifteen days' simple imprisonment. The sentence, in Mr. Emanuel's opinion, was ridiculously inaquate in view of then frequent orders to punish severely offences against the Abkari and Opium Acts; of the difficulty of detecting such offences; the comparative ease with which they might be committed, and the amount of liquor found. The punishment was far from being such as to deter other persons from following the accused's example. The fine had been paid. Mr. Emanuel requested that the judges of the High Court would see fit to enhance the sentence.

Their lordships looking at all the circumstances, saw no reason to interfere and directed the record and proceedings to be returned.

VALUABLE DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it "will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair" to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere. Wholesale Depot, 33 Farringdon Road London, England.

PURELY PERSONAL.

It was with quite a shock that the members of the House of Commons learned that poor Sir Archibald Milman had passed away. It was known that he had been seriously ill, but the expectation was that, with retirement from the dreadfully hard work of his office and the recognition of his services from all quarters, he would have had years of easy and happy life before him. How sudden and unexpected his death was will be judged from the fact that he had been photographed the very morning before for a popular Magazine, and seemed full of cheeriness and life.

He now and then got into conflict with the Irish members, especially in hot times when he was seen to be whispering every moment to the Chairman of the House; and was accordingly assumed to be inspiring the rebukes and rulings, and all the other limitations on the eloquence of the Irishmen, "Leave the Chairman alone, Milman," was a shout that was raised several times one night, a painful thing to hear, especially, of course, as poor Milman, whatever were his faults, had not the right to reply. He bore the ordeal very calmly, and, as everybody knows, he afterwards owed his appointment partly to his old Irish enemies. When the suggestion was made that the place of First Clerk should not be given to him—after the retirement of Sir Reginald Palgrave—but to a member of the House, the Irish kicked very violently, and the Ministry did not venture to pass Milman over. This brought to an end all the old enmity, and before he left the Speaker's table Milman and the Irishmen were on the best of terms.

Here is a little story of Mr. Justice Grantham, who has raised Lady Harberton's ire and some correspondence in "The Times," in consequence of his summing up in a case at the Essex Assize. Last week he was trying a case at the Hertford Assize, in which the defence tried to prove that a conversation carried on between two persons could not be overheard in a passage adjoining the room, because people were playing the piano and ping-pong in a room over-head. Mr. Harvey Murphy—massive, bland, and smiling—was the defending barrister. "No doubt your lordship knows something of the game of ping-pong," he remarked with sly humour. "Well," replied Mr. Justice Grantham, with a gravity which would have admirably suited a bishop in the pulpit," my experience of the game is that—people generally miss the ball!" Probably his lordship's experience is shared by many other devotees of the game.

I had a curious experience last week in Parliament writes Mr. T. P. O'Connor. Mr. Grant Lawson—who is a subordinate member of the Ministry—had spoken of the remarks with which Mr. Balfour had explained the new rules as "a great speech." It was the natural partiality of friendship; but Mr. Balfour himself was the first to laugh at the description. Alluding to it afterwards, I ventured on the joke that it was all very well for the leader of the orchestra to be applauded by the audience, but it was a little too strong that he should be cheered by the gentleman who played the triangle, an allusion to the smallness of Mr. Grant Lawson's post in the Government. I was somewhat surprised to find that the little joke made the House laugh for several minutes in succession, and I was really under the impression that I had said either a very foolish or an ill-natured thing, and I would have been very sorry to have done the latter, because I have a great regard for Grant Lawson—who is really one of the best fellows in the House of Commons.

Now here comes the curious coincidence. The next day I got a friendly and witty letter from Mr. Grant Lawson, in which he told me that he had, as a matter of fact, played the triangle in the school band when he was a little boy at Harrow. He was afterwards promoted to the big drum, where, he added, with the quaint humour he has, I made more noise than I have since ever done in the world! I need not say that I had no idea that Mr. Grant Lawson had ever had such an experience; and thus this was one of the curious coincidences that sometimes happen.

Mr. Grant Lawson, by the way, has had a very interesting and, in some respects, a very dramatic life. He was not well off when he was a young man, and was not supposed even to have had any particular expectation. He was rather surprised and, I believe, a little disturbed to be told by his school master that he must take the long and expensive journey to Yorkshire to attend the funeral of a distant relative. The reason was found after the funeral he had been left heir to a very handsome, not to say huge fortune. On which I heartily congratulate him; no worthier man could have got it.

There was a very funny scene in the House of Commons the other night: the result of a little conspiracy by two Irishmen, who are extremely fond of a little joke. The trib of Lynch—as everybody knows—is a very numerous one; and there happen at this moment to be two very prominent bearers of the name. One is Mr. Arthur Lynch, the recently-elected member for Galway; and the other, Mr. George Lynch—a famous war correspondent. Mr. George Lynch has been paying a flying visit to London after some months in New York, where he had an equally great social and literary success, and whither he has just returned to describe the voyage of Prince Henry of Germany for the "New York Herald."

There is no relationship between the two Lynches and when one sees them close, there is very little resemblance between the two. But at a distance, and to somebody who did not know them well, a certain resemblance might be traced. They are both slightly above the middle height rather thin; they both have long regular features and, indeed, handsome faces; and they both wera a tiny moustache. It occurred to Major Jameson, an Irish Member who dearly loves a bit of fun, and to Mr. George Lynch, that they might give the Police a little run, So the Major announced in a dramitic Wisper that he was going to have "Lynch" to dine with him in the House of Commons the following evening. Naturally the deadly secret was told very soon after, and reached the ears of Scotland Yard.

So when the Major sat down in the Strangers' Dining Room with Mr. George Lynch, detectives began to mysteriously make their appearance from all parts; and they discreetly watched the little dinner party. Meantime, Major Jameson and Mr. Lynch were observing with great delight the success of their little device, and did every thing in their power to encourage the illusion. Mr. Lynch left the House after dinner apparently in a great hurry, told the cabman whom he engaged to drive with fury, and, in short, led the poor detectives who were following a regular dance half over London. It was a very hilarious time for all who were in the secret.

There were—as many people found out—two Lord Dufferins. He belonged in his youth to the epoch when the reign of the dandies was not yet over, and perhaps that accounted for the fact that he very often appeared to cultivate an air of indifference and ennui, which was the mode in the times when dandyism was at its zenith. This slight suggestion of Lord Dudreary was increased by the fact that Lord Dufferin had something of a lisp—a physical peculiarity that runs in the Sheridan family. But anybody who presumed on this slight affection of indifference and even frivolity was certain to find his level. The story of the rencontre between Crispi and Lord Dufferin, when the one was Prime Minister of Italy and the other British Ambassador brings this fact well out Crispi was a bit of a brute and bully and treated everybody who approached him with almost deliberate discourtesy.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

The Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper, Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Kapla-nada	5	5	9
Mandvi, Chuckla, Umarkhadi and Dongri	9	17	39
C Market, Bhoi Talao, Fanaswady Bhuleshwar, Khara Talao and Khumbharwada	36	16	35
D Chetwady, Girgaum, Chowpatty, Walkeshwar and Mahalakshmi	22	17	26
E Mazagon, Tarwady, 2nd Nagpada, Kamathipura, Tarjeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	62	25	53
F Parel, Sewri and Sion	20	8	15
G Mahim and Worli	11	0	12
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-Resident and Unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	13	16
Total	165	105	202
Total plague deaths to date	107,891	93,382	
Same date last year	200	176	376

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"We recommend your Red Jamaica Sarsaparilla."—MEDICAL REVIEW.
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The late LORD CLYDE said—"I am never without it, for, when feeling depressed or out of sorts from anxiety or fatigue, a dose or two animates me."
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In charge Opium Police, Anas.

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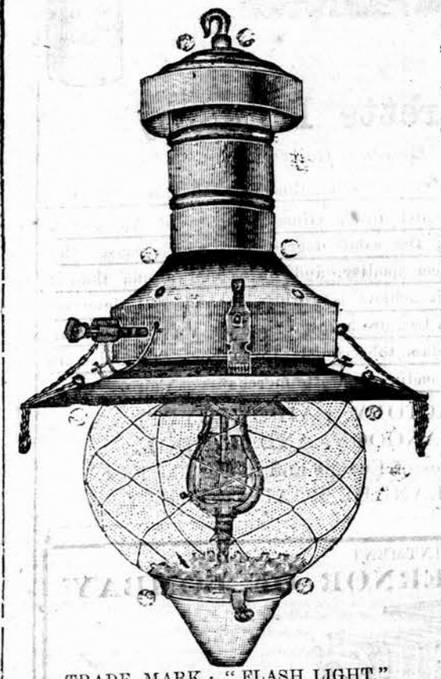

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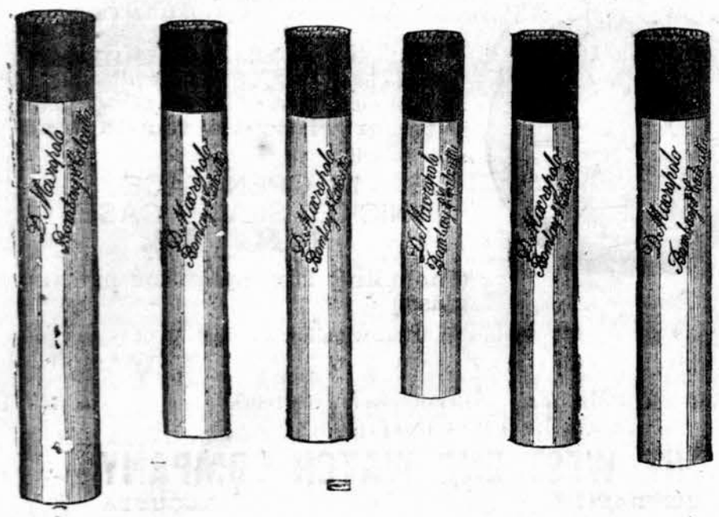

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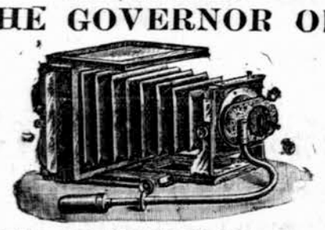

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